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MILITARY TACTICS.

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A

SYSTEM

OF

MILITARY TACTICS,

CONTAINING THE

PRINCIPLES

OF

DISCIPLINE AND MOVEMENTS,

CHIEFLY APPLIED TO

INFANTRY;

WITH THE

RULES AND REGULATIONS

DESIGNED FOR THE

FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

THE VARIOUS FORMS OF REPORTS.

ILLUSTRATED BY 16 COPPERPLATES, SHEWING UPWARDS OF ONE HUNDRED MOVEMENTS.

BY DANIEL FISHER.

NEW-YORK:

PRINTED BY SOUTHWICK AND HARDCASTLE,

NO. 2, WALL-STREET.

1805.

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DISTRICT OF NEW-YORK, ss. BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the twenty-seventh day of March, in the Twenty-Ninth Year of the Independence of the United States of America,

(L. S.) DANIEL FISHER, of the said District, hath deposited in this office, the title of a Book, the right whereof he claims as Author, in the words and figures following, to wit:—

" A System of Military Tactics, containing the Principles " of Discipline and Movements, chiefly applied to Infantry, " with the Rules and Regulations designed for the Forces " of the United States. To which is added, the various " forms of Reports. Illustrated by 16 Copperplates, shew- " ing upwards of One Hundred Movements.

" BY DANIEL FISHER."

IN CONFORMITY to the Act of the Congress of the said United States, entitled, " An act for the encouragement of Learn- " ing by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books to the " Authors and Proprietors of such Copies, during the times there- " in mentioned."

EDWARD DUNSCOMB,
Clerk of the District of New-York.

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PREFACE.

IT is to be lamented that human depravity hath so far prevailed over the generality of the nations of the earth, especially over their rulers, that they seek to shed the blood of innocent subjects, to gratify their pride and avarice; hence various inventions for the destruction of man, have from time to time made their appearance, until at last it has become a science.

Although it may be the wish of every man that this hostile, ferocious disposition were banished from the human breast, yet it is the duty of each to make himself acquainted with military discipline, in order to defend himself and his country from the invading hands of secret or declared enemies. It is therefore a duty both to learn, and apply, a system of military tactics in defensive warfare.

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It is pretty generally known throughout the civilized parts of the world, that the art of war is now reduced to a proper science; and it is unnecessary here to collect reasons for a military code; experience points out the necessity of it. It certainly has been our misfortune, while other nations have been improving the art, we have had no proper line of conduct laid down, being chiefly left to the accidental efforts of individuals, or the fashion of the day.

Simplicity and generality of principle are the distinguishing features of this system, uniting most of the European improvements in tactics, with those that are found correct, laid down by Baron de Steuben. Notwithstanding I am aware that many objections will be made against it, and that it may meet with opposition, yet I am not discouraged in the undertaking, knowing that the principles are just, and founded not only on theory, but on practice also, of most of the military nations of Europe. These nations, from a litigious disposition, are all under the necessity of supporting standing armies, and are so frequently at war, that they have opportunities of fully proving all new discoveries in the science; and surely we cannot reject what experience has taught them by long practice, when we are only guided by

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theory. A person who has habituated himself to perform any manual labour mechanically, will not dispute the propriety of method founded on experience; neither will the student refuse to be guided by certain established rules, in order to promote and facilitate his knowledge of the sciences, for he must know that it is a bad general system which is built on disorder, and has irregularity for its foundation. But the true art of war is not so; it requires a theoretical knowledge of the science, accompanied with mechanical practice, which are necessarily combined, to perfect a thorough knowledge of the military plans, and their execution.

The better to enable us to proceed with success to so desirable an object, it is previously necessary that one detailed and general system should be established, founded on what experience and success of plans has shewn to be the best; and when such is prescribed by authority, it should be implicitly followed, not the smallest deviation permitted from it on any account.

The want of uniformity in method, and of regulation in the movements of the American troops, loudly call for such a system, which will reconcile celerity with order, prevent hurry, loss of time, steadiness, inattention to command, &c. which ways produce confusion: to insure correctness

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and precision, by which alone great bodies will be able to arrive at their object in good order, and in the shortest space of time, to ascertain the grand principle which should be constantly held in view, and the completion of which each circumstance should tend. This principle necessarily refers to the actions and exertions in the field operations of the troops, and has for its object the conquest of the enemy by superior movement and arrangement, regarding all matters of parade and shew, as secondary objects.

The great object in view from the following system is to establish one general and just principle of movement, directing and governing the operations of great as well as small bodies, which should be rigidly followed and practised by every military association. Permanent and detailed regulations for the conduct of every military individual in every situation, are obviously useful in every service. Such regulations not only prepare materials, but wind up the springs that give energy and unity to the whole machine. To attain this important purpose, it is necessary to ascertain the great principle which should be constantly held in view, and to which the completion of each circumstance should tend. The ultimate object being determined, we shall follow it through its se-

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veral divisions, and in tracing the principles of just movements in the line, in the column, and in the echellon, we shall perceive the means by which the great end is accomplished. When we find the battalion in its intermediate place, and discover the necessary detail and application of these circumstances to the various operations, we can perceive the primary and most essential order in which an enemy is to be met with: every other change of situation must be relative thereto, and the component parts formed and regulated accordingly. But we must descend to take a view of the system in a few summary observations, in order to a more clear and comprehensive understanding of it.

The First Part treats of the drill or instruction of the recruit. Each should be separately and carefully exercised in the first six sections.—From the sixth to the twenty-second section, six or eight recruits may be placed in a single rank and at open files, taught punctually to observe step and cadence, halting, marching, wheeling, dressing, &c. which form the basis of all military movements. The principles contained in the twenty-second and twenty-third sections, must be taught to each recruit separately.

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The Second Part relates to the training of a company and platoon, preparing them for joining the battalion. From the twenty-third section to the forty-ninth contains the necessary order of discipline for a company in rank and file; and from the forty-eighth to the fifty-sixth, shews the formation, exercise, firings, and filing arms of a platoon, with the funeral exercise, and instruction of officers; thus qualifying them to act in battalion or line.

The Third Part begins with general circumstances of movements which are the most essential and material parts of the science of tactics, from the fifty-fifth to the sixty-eighth section, the respective articles are separately and distinctly explained; and from the sixty-seventh to the seventy-first section, the formation, order, and assembly of the battalion are explained. The exercise of a battalion comprehending every thing that is required of even the largest body, we have confined ourselves to treat only of that subject, in order to reduce the science to as simple a form as possible, and may be found from the seventieth to the hundred and thirty-eighth section, including every movement, which are arranged in the order which appeared to be the most natural, viz. the diminishing and increas-

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ing the front of columns; the various modes of wheel and marching from line into columns, and the changes of position in open column from line; passage of a bridge, or short defile; the countermarch by files, and by columns, with the formation of the line in the respective situations. The formation and order of close column from line, and deployments into line again. The oblique deployments, and the several changes of position by the echellon movements; the advancing and retiring of the line by alternate wings and divisions, with the passage of obstacles in line, and the various formations, movements, and uses of the hollow square or oblong, which contains every necessary movement a battalion or line may be required to perform.

The Fourth Part describes the plan, order, and manœuvres of the inspection or review, agreeably to the most approved system in Europe, comprehending the most essential movements, upon true military principles.

The Fifth Part contains some general observations on artillery, the method of quick firing and exercise of the gun. Here we were under the necessity of closing this volume, from the prescribed plan in the Prospectus for publishing this work; but let none complain that the system is not com-

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plete; if this volume meets with sufficient encouragement, I purpose finishing the Science of Military Tactics in another volume, comprehending the whole duty of artillery, cavalry, and the general movements of the line, with plans of encampments, camp and garrison duty, &c

The chief design of the whole is to inculcate and enforce the necessity of military dependence and of mutual support in action, which are the great ends of discipline, to simplify the execution and abridge the variety of movements as much as possible, adopting only such as are necessary for combined exertion, and that can be required or applied in service, so that explanation may not retard at the moment that execution should take place, to enable the commanding officer, as it were, to manage the machine with his own hand, so as to be able to restrain the bad effects of such ideas of independent and individual exertion as are hurtful and visionary, and of directing them to their true objects, those of order, combined effort, and subordination, by the united force of which, a regular, well-disciplined enemy, can be opposed with any prospect of success.

In the United States, where every citizen is necessarily a soldier, the whole should be regulated by a general system, enforced by authority, and

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no regimental or other deviation, permitted from it, at the discretion of individuals, nor should any one have a right to dispense with observances which so nearly concern the general good, and which by situation he may be placed to watch over. And whatever changes time and circumstances might make necessary, should come from authority; the military machine would then be in unison, and all its parts managed with ease. Positive regulation should always speak in a tone of command, and not use unnecessary explanation; but such tone is not here assumed; the design is only to lay down rules, and point out the reasons of each, in order to induce conviction.

Were we once steadied in true principles, there is little doubt that we would soon arrive at tolerable proficiency; for if an immutable line of conduct were prescribed and followed, caprice and change, would no longer exist; uncertainty, which is so distressing to every one concerned, would cease; general uniformity would succeed, and much laudable zeal and ability would then be directed aright. Officers no longer acting on the temporary ideas of individuals, but each would soon perceive the very first stages of the profession to be those of science, and that without their correct execution, the plans of the general cannot

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be supported. Such movements as are required, or applicable to the service in the field, would be unalterably established, and explicit regulations, instead of tending to confine or cramp genius, would give full scope to military talents, by the application of true principle to the variety which time, numbers, situation of ground, and such other circumstances as will frequently present themselves.

My confidence in the subsequent movements is placed upon principle, the precision and exactness required in them, knowing they are attainable, and cannot be unnecessary to the American troops, because they reconcile order and exertion, which is the great object of all military arrangement. Where they apply to ground and circumstances, their justness and superiority will certainly decide, but where they do not fully apply, the less they are departed from, the nearer perfection will the bodies attain which are directed by them; and be it remembered, there is scarcely any situation in which the single battalion, or any portion of a line cannot be regulated by them. But there are certainly many occasions where it may be improper rigidly to follow all the formal rules of method; such as quick movements of small bodies may be required when necessary, but the troops

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should be accordingly prepared, yet care must be taken against throwing a considerable body of infantry into disorder, by hurrying them, especially in the presence of even a small corps of the enemy's determined cavalry, as it may prove of serious consequence. If a rabble, a timid, or very inferior enemy is to be attacked, time might be lost in acting with too much regularity; spirit and activity may be then sufficient. But if steady troops are to be encountered, it is in firmness and combined exertion that we must expect success.

The rules hereafter laid down, it is presumed, will be found simple and adapted to the understanding and comprehension of every individual, but they will require perfect attention. In the soldier an equal step and cadence, acquired and confirmed by habit, independent of music or sound, in the officer, precision and energy of command, the preservation of just distances, and the accurate leading of divisions on the given points of formation: with these circumstances, the whole will soon attain that precision of movement which is so essential, and without which, even valour itself will not avail, accompanied with the greatest intrepidity.

THE AUTHOR.

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The words of command on the margin in *italic*, are the words to be given by the instructors, and leaders of divisions, in their respective places.

The words of command given by the commander of the battalion, or a field officer, are marked on the margin in SMALL CAPITALS.

Although *division* is generally understood to express a company or platoon, yet it is always applied to whatever part of a company at that time composes the front of a column.

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A

SYSTEM

OF

MILITARY TACTICS.

PART I.

INSTRUCTION OF THE RECRUITS.

THE several branches of instructions for recruits should be followed in the manner here laid down. It requires not only experience, but a degree of patience not met with in every man, to instruct: the person selected for that purpose, should be one of the most unremitting perseverance, possessing an accurate knowledge of every part he has to teach—clear, concise, and firm, in giving his instructions, commanding perfect attention and respect from the men during the time he has them under drill. He must make proper allowances for the weak capacities of recruits, and not use rigorous measures where endeavor and goodwill are manifest: accuracy and quickness of execution are not at first to be required; they are the result of much practice.

Throughout the whole of discipline, the recruit must not be hurried, but carried on progressively;

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comprehending one thing before he proceeds to another. In every circumstance of his first positions; firelock, head, eyes, fingers, elbows, feet, &c. must be justly shewn by the instructor; but when recruits are more advanced, they must not be touched, but shewn by example, and taught to correct themselves when admonished. In the marchings, music ought not to be used, but the recruit is to be confirmed by habit in the length and cadence of step, which he is always to maintain in approaching an enemy, when a combination of noises will tend to derange him.

The recruits must be taught singly, and then in squads, before they are allowed to join the company or battalion. One aukward man, either distorted in person, or imperfect in march, will operate on the whole, or at least spoil the appearance of those he is connected with; but in actual service he should never be allowed to turn out with well disciplined troops.

WITHOUT ARMS.

§ 1. *Position of the Soldier.*

The erectness of the body, the squareness of the shoulders and body to the front, are the first principal positions of a soldier. The heels must be in a line, about one inch apart.—The toes turned out, so that the feet may form an angle of about 45 degrees.—The knees straight, the arms hanging down without stiffness, the palms of the hands close to the thighs, the fore fingers

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in a line with the seams of the pantaloons, the elbows and shoulders kept back, the belly a little drawn in, and the breast advanced; the principal weight of the body on the fore part of the feet, the head erect, neither turned to right nor left; the whole must be without constraint.

§ 2. *Standing at Ease.*

Stand at Ease. On the word *stand at ease*, the right foot must be drawn back about six inches, the hollow opposite the left heel, the greatest part of the weight of the body upon it; the left knee a little bent, the hands brought before the body, throwing the palm and fingers of the right across the back and fingers of the left, and both thumbs in, the shoulders back and square, and the head to front.

Attention. On the word *attention*, the hands must be dropped smartly to the first position, the right heel brought up in a line with the left, and the first attitude of the soldier resumed.

§ 3. *Eyes to the Right, &c.*

Eyes Right. On the word, *eyes right*, the head must be smartly turned so that the left eye will range with the waistcoat buttons.—At the word *eyes left*, the head must be turned to the left so that the right eye will range with the waistcoat but-

Eyes Left.

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Eyes Front. tons.—At the word *eyes front*, the head and look must be directed to the front.

These motions are only applicable to dressing the line, or a division, when ordered to halt, and to all wheelings; particular care must be taken that the body be kept square in the turnings of the eyes, and the head well up.

---

§ 4. *The Facings.*

To the Right Face.

1st. On the word to the *right face*, place the hollow of the right foot smartly against the left heel, keeping the body square to the front.

2d. Raise the toes, turn to the right describing a quarter of a circle.

To the Right about Face.

1st. The ball of the right toe must be placed against the left heel, keeping the body square to the front.

2d, Raise the toes, turn to the right-about on both heels, describing half a circle.

3d. Bring the right foot smartly square with the left.

To the Left Face.

1st. On the word to the *left face*, place the right heel against the hollow of the left foot, and keep the body square to the front.

2d, Raise the toes, turn to the left, describing a quarter of a circle.

1st. The right heel must be placed against the ball of the left foot, keeping the body square to the front.

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To the left about face. 2d. Raise the toes, turn to the left-about on both heels, describing a half circle.

3d. Bring up the right foot smartly square with the left.

It must be observed in all facings, that the left heel is the pivot to turn on, and the heels must always be dressed by moving the right foot: the body is to be kept perpendicular, and the knees straight.—Without great precision in the facings, a body of men, however well dressed, will soon lose their dressing; therefore they require to be exactly executed.

---

§ 5. *Of the position in Marching.*

Ordinary Step, March. The position of the body directed in section 1, must be maintained as much as possible. He must not be allowed to stoop forward nor to lean back, his body kept square to the front, well balanced on his limbs, and inclined a little more forward when marching than when halted, that it may give ease to the movement of the leg and thigh. The toe must be pointed out and kept near the ground, the heel and toe brought down together. The head to be kept well up, and the eyes looking straight to the front.

Let it be remembered, that the ordinary step is 27 inches, and 75 in a minute. This is the slowest step which a recruit is taught, and is most commonly used in movements of parade, unless greater celerity be required: the recruit

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must be thoroughly instructed in it, and carefully trained to the cadence and length of step, being so very essential in all movements; it is absolutely necessary he should perfectly understand it, before he proceeds further, that he may be enabled to march over rough as well as smooth ground, without losing step or cadence.

§ 6 *Of the Halt.*

Halt. On the word *halt*, the foot advanced compleats its pace when the word was given, and the other brought up heels square; after which no shifting must take place without order, such as dress, march, &c.

The word *Halt*, is sometimes joined to other words of command, thereby making it a compound: instance, Halt-wheel, Halt-front, Halt-dress, &c. these words must be considered as one word of command, and executed without making a pause betwixt them.

§ 7. *Of the Quick Step.*

The quick-time is 108 steps in a minute, taking in at each 27 inches, which makes 243 feet in a minute. The recruits must be taught this as well as the ordinary step, so that it may become perfectly habitual, and that they may be enabled to preserve its length and cadence in the midst of surrounding noise, without any adventitious aid. On the words *quick march* being given, with a

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Quick, March. pause between, the word *quick* serves as a caution; at the word *march*, they step off with the left feet, preserving the body square to the front, lifting the feet so as to clear stones or other small impediments in their way; the knees must be straightened each step, but not stiffened so as to occasion fatigue; the heel and toe must come to the ground together. A gentle motion of the arms may be permitted to prevent constraint, but not so as to occasion the least turn or movement of the shoulders; the eyes are to look to the front and the utmost steadiness is required.

It is in this pace all filings from line into column, and from column into line are used, and also battalion columns of manœuvre in changing their position.—It may be used in the column of march, if the route is smooth and but few obstacles in the way, provided it does not produce too much fatigue to the soldier.

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§ 8. *Of the Quickest Step.*

Quickest Step, March. The quickest step, or wheeling time, is 120 paces in a minute, of 30 inches each, making 300 feet in a minute. The directions given for the quick step equally relate to this in every thing except the lengthening and quickening the pace.

This is practised by the outward flanks of divisions wheeling from line into column, and from column into line; also, in this time, divisions double

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and move up when passing obstacles, or when the front of divisions of a column in march is encreased or diminished. If the front of a wheeling division consists of more than ten files, the outward wheeling man will take 33 inches each pace, in order to compleat the wheel in the required time.

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§ 9. *Of the Oblique Step.*

To the Left Oblique, March.

Fig. 1.

The recruit having acquired the length of the foregoing steps, with their cadences, he must be taught the *oblique march.* Without altering the squareness of his position, at the word *left oblique,* he prepares: at the word *march,* he steps off with his left foot point and carry it about 19 inches in a diagonal line to the left, which will give about 13 inches to the left, and 13 inches to the front, and will form an angle of about 25 degrees.

The oblique march to the right, is performed by the same rules and upon the same principle, viz. Step off with the left foot 13 inches to the front, point and carry the right about 19 inches in a diagonal line to the right, bring the left 30 inches forward, by which means the oblique will be about 25 degrees to the right; this is as much of an angle as can conveniently be gained by the oblique march without constraining the soldier to alter the position of his body, which must never be done if it can be avoided. All marchings, the side step excepted, invariably begin with the left foot, and require the squareness of the person with an easy military deportment.

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§ 10. *Of Dressing when Halted.*

Dress. In dressing, the instructor will place in one rank, from 8 to 12 recruits, when they are fully instructed in the foregoing 9 sections. On the word *dress*, each individual will turn his eyes to the point directed, agreeably to the rule laid down in section 3: bending backward or forward cannot be permitted; he must gradually gain his position by taking short, quick steps, not by a sudden alteration, as that would certainly derange those beyond him: he must just perceive the breast of the third man from him, towards the point he is dressing on.

The officer or instructor giving the word *dress*, should always be on the point on which the body halts when the word is given, and correct the dressing from that point to his opposite flank, or on a point beyond it: the eyes of the men are always to be turned to the officer while dressing. Dressing must be taught equally by the right and left. Care should be taken to avoid the faults usually committed by the recruit, by inclining the head forward, turning it too much, passing the line, shoulders not square, &c.

No officer should attempt to dress a rank without being on the flank to which it is to dress, and there determining, or at least supposing a line on which he is to dress the body; which should be gradually done from the fixed pivot towards the distant flank. The words generally used, except

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when the word *dress* alone is given, which means to the flank from which they receive the word, are,

By the Right-forward—Dress.

By the Right-backward—Dress.

By the Left-forward—Dress.

By the Left-backward—Dress.

Eyes Front. When the dressing is accomplished, the words *eyes-front*, will be given, that the heads may be brought square to the front.

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§ 11. *Of the Side or Closing Step.*

To the Right Close, March. This is performed from the halt for the purpose of taking up vacant ground in the line, or giving more room to a flank that is crowded, and is always to right or left. On the words, *right-close, march*, the eyes must be turned to the right, and each man carries his right foot about two feet in a direct line to the right, (or if the files of the party moving are closed, to his neighbor's left foot) and immediately bring up the left till the heel touches the right heel, then pause one second before he takes another step, which is to be observed by the whole in motion. The same rules are observed in closing to the left. On the word *halt*, the eyes will be turned to the front; the whole halt and remain steady.

To the Left-Close, March.

Halt.

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§ 12. *Of Stepping Out.*

This is necessary when a temporary exertion is required, to gain

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ground on a party advanced beyond the usual distance, and is always used by the outward wheeling man of a division. On the word *step out,* the recruit will lengthen his step to 33 inches, leaning a little forward without altering the cadence. This is applicable to ordinary and quick steps.

Step Out.

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§ 13. *Of Stepping Short.*

This step is necessary when a momentary retardment of either a battalion in line, or a division in column is required, and has to wait for the other's coming up. On the word *step short,* the whole will compleat the pace on the foot advanced, and afterwards shorten the step by bringing the heel to the ball of the toe alternately, until the word forward is given, when the whole step off in the step they shortened in, whether ordinary or quick time.

Step Short.

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§ 14. *Of Changing the Feet.*

This is sometimes required of an individual who is stepping with a different foot from the rest of the division, and sometimes of the whole division, when it changes from ordinary to quick time; the inattention of music in changing the tune, &c. On the word *change feet,* the foot advanced will compleat its pace, the ball of the other will be

Change Feet

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brought up quickly to the heel of the advanced one, which will instantly take another pace forward, which in fact will be two successive steps with the same foot, and must be done without losing the cadence.

§ 15. *Of Marking Time.*

Mark Time. *Forward.*

This is necessary in marchings, where any part or division is advanced beyond the usual distance, and has to wait for the others coming up. On the words *mark time*, the foot advancing, will compleat its pace, after which the cadence is continued without gaining ground, by alternately throwing the foot forward, and bringing it back square with the other. At the word *forward*, the usual pace is again resumed.

§ 16. *Of the Back Step.*

Step Back, March. *Halt.*

The back step ought to be but few paces at a time, and most commonly performed in the ordinary time: it is used in taking open order, and wheeling back divisions. The shoulders must be kept square to the front and the body erect: it must commence from the halt. On the words, *step back, march*, the recruit must move straight to the rear, taking in the usual distance of 27 inches each pace. At the word *halt*, the foot in front must be brought back square with the other.

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§ 17. *Of File Marching.*

To the Face — The recruits being in a single rank, on the words *right* or *left face*, being given, they will face as ordered, and then cover each other exactly in file, so that the person before may conceal all those in his front. An object will be given the leader, which he is to march straight to, and the recruits must preserve their covering on the march: all the rules of marching is particularly necessary to be observed in file-marching: it must be first taught in ordinary time, and afterwards in quick time. On the word *march*, the whole will instantly step off together, gaining at each step 27 inches, and so continue without increasing the distance betwixt each recruit; and taking care to lock up heel and toe of the right and left feet with the man preceding him. no looking down nor leaning back can be permitted. Care must be taken that they do not march with their knees bent, which they will be very apt to do from an apprehension of treading on the heels of those before them. There is no marching better calculated to make men step together.

March.

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§ 18. *Of the Wheeling from the Halt.*

Wheelings are generally performed in the quickest step, but the recruits must be taught in the ordi-

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nary step first until they are perfect; and in order to acquire the proper length of step which each is required to take, they ought to continue the wheel without halting, for several revolutions of the circle, occasionally receiving the word *halt-dress* at instants not expected, and then only at a sixth, eighth, or any small portion of the circle. On the words *to the right wheel*, the pivot man on the right faces to the right; at the word *march*, all but the man on the right, step off together, the whole turning their eyes to the left, being the wheeling flank, except the man on the left, who must look inwards during the wheel, and becomes a base line for the others to conform to. He must lengthen his step to 38 inches; the same time is observed by the whole, but the step must be shortened by the recruit in proportion as he is nearer the standing flank: during the wheel, while the eyes are turned to the left, each man must gently touch the man on his right, by which means, opening out from the standing flank will be avoided, and closing on it during the wheel is not to be permitted.

To the Right Wheel, March.

Halt-Dress.

At the word *halt-dress*, the whole must halt and dress without making any false movements, in the manner already described in section 10. Wheeling to the left is performed by the same rules, the left being the standing pivot.

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§ 19. *Of Wheeling on the March.*

The recruits must also be taught this wheeling in the ordinary time first, and afterwards in the *quickest* or *wheeling time.* The rank marching to the front, will receive the words *halt right-wheel,* on which the man on the right flank instantly halts and faces to his right, the rest turn their eyes to the wheeling flank, and proceed as directed in the foregoing section. When the portion of the circle to be wheeled is completed, the officer commands *forward,* on which the whole move on together.

Halt Right-Wheel.

Forward.

§ 20. *Of Wheeling on a Moveable Pivot.*

Wheeling on a moveable pivot is sometimes necessary, both flanks being moveable, describing a concentric circle round a point at a small distance, and what otherwise would be the standing flank: the eyes of the whole must be turned to the directing pivot, whether the outward or inward flank; the just performance of this movement depends much on having a well drilled soldier on that pivot. It is used by a column of march in following the windings of its route, or changing its direction less than the quarter circle.

If the left is the directing pivot, and the wheel to be made on it, the word *right shoulders forward* will be given; on which the pivot

Right Shoulders forward.

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man moves on without altering the cadence or length of step, tracing out the circumference of the lesser circle, giving the outward flank sufficient time to come round without hurrying; to prevent that inconvenience, the step must be extended.

Forward. On the word *forward*, the shoulders must be squared and the pivot direct his march to the front. If the directing pivot be on the outward flank, and have to describe the larger circle, the word *left shoulders forward* will be given; the pivot will gradually bring round the rank or division without altering the length of the pace or cadence to the degree of wheel required. It must be observed during these wheels, the ranks will dress by their proper pivots; and if the greater circle is taken by the pivot, he will lengthen his pace; if the lesser, he will shorten it if necessary, bringing round the rank to its proper front, in which it is to proceed in a perpendicular direction: care must be taken that opening out or crowding in on the pivot may not take place.

Left Shoulders forward.

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§ 21. *Of Wheeling Backwards.*

When large bodies wheel backward from line into column, it is necessary the pivots should cover in line, and preserve the wheeling distances: it is found to be the most accurate and convenient for performing most of the manœuvres, as

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shall be shewn hereafter. On the word *left-backward wheel*, the man on the left faces to his right; at the word *march*, the whole step backward in wheeling time, preserving the touch; those near the pivot taking short steps, and those as they are placed nearer the wheeling flank, increasing in proportion; no looking down nor bending forward must be suffered to take place. On the word *halt*, the whole column remains perfectly steady, until the word *dress* is received.

Left backward, wheel.

March.

Halt.

Dress.

WITH ARMS.

§ 22. *The position of the Soldier.*

When the firelock is placed on the shoulder, the recruit remains in the positions described in the foregoing sections, except that the wrist of the left hand must be turned a little to the right, to embrace the butt of the musquet with the fingers, the points of which being turned in, will touch the joint of the thigh; the thumb alone ought to appear in front; the elbows well back, and the piece held firm in nearly a perpendicular position before the hollow of the left shoulder.—The firelock must be placed in the hand, not on the middle of the fingers, the hold of the butt such as to have full command of the piece; not carried too high, nor yet too low, as either would distort the shoulders and upper part of the body: any thing

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that will tend to produce that effect must be avoided.

CAUTION.

Before proceeding to a description of the manual exercise, and the succeeding parts of discipline, a few observations are necessary, which must always be attended to in their proper place: and,

1st. The manual being necessary in order to take off the rustic stiffness from the recruit, and give that ease and facility of execution in every part of musquet exercise, especially the platoon, which is always used in action; and partly to accomplish this end, the recruits must be accustomed to carry their arms for a considerable time together, and not to support them so often as is generally practised, from an idea that carrying them a long time, is too much constraint. The good sense of the instructor will easily perceive the proper line of conduct.

2d. A platoon, company, or battalion, where accuracy of front is required, must never MARCH, HALT, FORM IN LINE, OR DRESS, but with *carried arms*, but when marching in column, or small divisions moving any distance, and when such bodies are standing halted, arms may be occasionally *supported*.

3d. The recruit must not be hurried through the manual exercise, but time and pains taken to perfect every motion. None ought to attempt to instruct a recruit without being perfect master of every motion required, as a bad habit once con-

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tracted, is worse to correct than to form a new one upon just principles; therefore it is necessary that the instructor be able to handle the musquet with dexterity, and show the recruit the precise position of every motion, as example is in this case the best method of instruction.

4th. The rules laid down for marching, wheeling and forming, must be particularly observed; and when any movement requires a turn of the head and eyes, in order to adjust it, as soon as it is accomplished, the head and eyes must be immediately directed to front. If the soldier have occasion to look at any object in an oblique direction, the eyes may be turned to it, but not the head.

§ 23. THE MANUAL EXERCISE.

I.

Support, Arms.

1st. Bring the right hand smartly across the body, seizing the piece at the small.

2d. Quit the butt with the left, throwing the lower part of the arm horizontally across the body, letting the cock rest upon the swell of the arm.

3d. Quit the small with the right hand, and bring it down by the thigh in its first position.

II.

Carry, Arms.

1st. Bring the right hand smartly across the body, seizing the piece at the small.

2d. Bring down the left strong

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on the butt, seizing it with the usual hold.

3d. Drop the right hand to its first position.

III.

Slope, Arms.

1st. Throw forward the butt, and left hand square with the body, from the shoulder to the elbow of the left arm will be perpendicular with it; and the barrel forming an angle of about 45 degrees over the left shoulder.

IV.

Carry, Arms.

1st. Bring the butt and left hand to their former positions; raising the right hand smartly to the small, stop and steady the piece.

2d. Drop the right hand to its first position.

V.

Trail, Arms.

1st. Lower the piece as far as possible without constraint, with the left hand, at the same time bringing up the right, seizing the piece opposite the hollow of the left shoulder.

2d. Bring down the piece to the right side, the butt about six inches off the ground, barrel forming an angle of about 45 degrees.

VI.

Shoulder, Firelock.

1st. Shift the piece up in the right hand so as the little finger will be near the feather spring, throwing it up into the proper shouldered position, and instantly seize it with the left hand at the butt.

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2d. Bring down the right hand to its first position.

VII.

Order, Firelock.

1st. & 2d. The same as the two motions of the trail.

3d. Drop the butt to the ground in a line with the toes, two inches to the right of the right foot, bringing the muzzle into the hollow of the right shoulder, placing the fingers straight upon the sling. If the ground is wet or dirty, the butt may be rested on the right foot.

VIII.

Stand, at ease.

(Vide section 2d.) In bringing the hands together, the muzzle will be gently pressed into the hollow of the right shoulder, and against the right side, by the swell of the arms.

IX.

Attention.

(Vide section 2d.) The right hand comes down quick upon the sling, the left to its first position; the body and head reared, the right foot brought up, and the attitude of the soldier assumed.

X.

Shoulder, Firelock.

1st. & 2d. Shift the thumb behind the barrel, and proceed as directed in shouldering from the trail.

XI.

1st. Turn the piece with a quick motion of the left wrist, the lock to the front, without throwing the firelock out from the body; at the

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same instant bring the right hand across the body, seizing it at the small.

Poise, Firelock.

2d. Bring up the piece with the right hand, quitting the butt with the left, holding it perpendicular before the left eye, lock out, and strike the sling smartly with the left hand half way between the guard and the tail-pipe, the upper part of the hand as high as the eyes, and the flat of the butt gently touching the breast.

XII.

Cock, Firelock.

1st. Turn the barrel briskly opposite the left eye, the cock-pin opposite the nipple of the left breast, place the thumb of the right hand on the cock, the fingers below the guard to assist the purchase of the thumb, and raise the elbow a little.

2d. Cock the piece, bringing down the elbow close by the side. The left elbow must also be kept close down.

XIII.

Take, Aim.

Step back with the right foot about six inches, the toe pointed to the right, the left toe pointed to the front, bringing down the piece at the same time to a level, the butt placed firm against the hollow of the right shoulder, the fore-finger before the trigger, the right cheek touching the flat of the butt, and with the right eye taking a view along the barrel at the object intended to be fired at.

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XIV.

Fire. Draw the trigger smartly, and immediately after firing bring up the right foot square with the left, toe pointed to the right, and the piece down, the butt opposite the short rib, the muzzle as high as the chin, the left hand having the same hold that was fired in, thumb along the stock, and with the fore-finger and thumb of the right hand, the back up, seize the cock, raising the elbow a little: the head must be kept well up and the body straight.

XV.

Half-Cock, Firelock. Raise the cock to the half-cock briskly, bringing down the elbow on the butt, and throw the hand up as high as the shoulder.

XVI.

Handle, Cartridge. Bring down the right hand quick on the cartridge-box, seize the first cartridge the hand comes to, between the fore-finger and thumb, bring up the hand with it to the mouth, bite off the paper down to the powder, keep the elbow down and the hand as high as the shoulder.

XVII.

Prime. Shake a little of the powder into the pan, press the paper of the open end of the cartridge together with the fore-finger and thumb, place the other three fingers before the steel of the lock, with the elbow a little raised.

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XVIII.

Shut, Pan.

1st. Shut pan briskly by bringing the steel down on the powder, and the elbow down on the butt, preserving the hold of the cartridge between the finger and thumb.

2d. Throw the piece smartly across the body to the loading position, the butt in a line with the toes and suspended with the left hand about 3 inches off the ground, with the lock to the front, the muzzle a little turned out from the body; the heel of the right hand touching the barrel about 3 inches below the muzzle.

XIX.

Load with, Cartridge.

1st. Turn the open end of the cartridge into the muzzle, shaking the powder into the barrel, and force in the wad (or ball), dropping the butt to the ground which will settle the powder at the breech.

2d. Turn the rammer towards the left breast, seize the butt of the rammer with the right hand, thumb upwards, and keep the elbow down.

XX.

Draw, Rammer.

1st. Pull the rammer half out, and seize it back-handed at the muzzle.

2d. Draw it out, turn it, and enter the butt in the muzzle. Care must be taken to prevent the body yielding to these motions.

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XXI.

Ram down, Cartridge. Force the cartridge down, and with two smart strokes of the rammer, feel that it is well down to the breech; draw the rammer half out, seize it back-handed by the middle, turn it, and enter it in the bell-pipe, running it down as far as the tail-pipe, with the edge of the hand on the butt of the rammer, and the fingers extended.

XXII.

Return, Rammer. Force the rammer home, and instantly raise the left hand with the piece to the proper shouldered position, the left hand as high as the ear, seizing the piece at the small with the right hand, and turning the body square to the front

XXIII.

Shoulder, Firelock. 1st. Bring down the left hand smartly on the butt, taking the usual hold of it.

2d. Quit the small with the right hand, dropping it to its first position.

XXIV.

Order, Firelock. See the seventh article of the manual.

The grounding firelock ought to be expunged, being an unnecessary motion; the *filing arms* will answer every thing intended by it, (as shall be shewn hereafter) without subjecting the arms to contracting the damp they are liable to, when laying on the ground. It is at present out of use in

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all European military discipline; nevertheless, the following is the method of performing it.

XXV.

Ground, Firelock.

1st. Turn the piece with the right hand, bringing the lock to the rear, and step forward 30 inches with the left, placing the left hand on the left knee, in order to support the body, lay the piece on the ground perpendicular to front, the eyes directed to the man giving the time, the right hand as far forward as the left heel, the right knee bent near the ground.

2d. Quit the firelock with the right hand, raise the body up, bring back the left foot, and assume the position of *attention*, vide sec. 2d.

XXVI.

Take up, Firelock.

1st. Step forward with the left foot, coming to the position of grounding, seize the piece a little above the tail-pipe.

2d. Raise up the body, bringing back the left foot to its former position, turn the barrel to the rear, extending the hand on the sling the same as at the order.

XXVII.

Shoulder, Firelock.

Bring the piece to the shoulder in the manner directed in the tenth article of the manual.

XXVIII.

1st. Bring the right hand briskly across the body, seizing the piece at the small.

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2d. Quit the butt with the left hand, and raise it as high as the left ear, seizing the piece at the swell, the arm covering the lock.

Secure, Firelock.

3d. Quit the piece with the right hand, bringing it down to its first position; with the left hand bring down the muzzle smartly within 12 inches of the ground, the butt close up under the arm-pit, and the swell of the arm covering the lock.

XXIX.

Shoulder, Firelock.

1st. Bring the piece smartly to the shoulder with the left hand, stop and steady it at the small with the right.

2d. Bring down the left strong upon the butt.

3d. Drop the right hand to its first position.

XXX.

Fix, Bayonets.

1st. & 2d. The same as the two first motions of the secure.

3d. Quit the piece with the right hand, lowering it down the left side to the ground, two inches from the left toe, throw the muzzle into the guard of the right arm, and with the right hand seize the socket of the bayonet, with the left seize the sheath, draw and fix bayonet, bring the piece into the hollow of the left shoulder.

XXXI.

1st. Quit the socket of the bayonet with the right hand, raise the piece up to the shouldered posi-

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Shoulder, Firelock. tion with the left, the hand as high as the ear, and seize it at the small with the right hand.

2d. Bring the left hand smartly down on the butt.

3d. Drop the right hand to its first position.

XXXII.

Present, Arms. 1st. & 2d. The same as the two motions of the poise.

3d. Draw the right foot back opposite the left heel about six inches; at the same instant, bring down the piece before the left knee, keeping both knees straight, the left hand supporting it at the swell, the right at the small, with fingers extended, and thumb on the thumb-plate, keeping the head well up, and the barrel perpendicular.

XXXIII.

Shoulder, Firelock. 1st. Throw the firelock up to the shoulder, bringing up the right foot to its proper place, and seize the butt with the left hand.

2d. Quit the small with the right hand, and bring it down to its first position.

XXXIV.

1st. Bring the right hand swiftly across the body, taking a strong hold of the small of the piece, quit the butt with the left hand, throwing it forward.

2d. Bring down the firelock with the right hand smartly upon the left, just below the tail-pipe. The

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butt pressed with the elbow and swell of the right arm to the side, holding the barrel horizontally, and in a perpendicular line to front.

The second rank brings the butt high under the arm, the muzzle elevated so as to clear the heads of the front rank, if in close order.

Charge, Bayonets. 3d. The third rank comes to port arms, by throwing the piece from the shoulder diagonally across the breast, receiving it in both hands at once, the right hand at the small, the left below the tail-pipe, the right elbow resting on the butt, the barrel as high as the top of the left shoulder, and the lock out, the piece must be gently pressed against the breast.

XXXV.

Shoulder, Firelock. 1st. Throw the piece smartly to a shoulder, seize the butt with the left hand.

2d. Bring down the right hand to its first position.

XXXVI.

1st. & 2d. The same as the two motions of the poise.

Advance, Arms. 3d. Throw the piece with the left hand to the right side, the barrel to the rear, the left hand at the swell, the guard between the fore-finger and thumb of the right hand, the other three fingers below the cock, and the barrel perpendicular before the hollow of the right shoulder.

4th. Quit the piece with the left and bring it to its first position.

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XXXVII.

Shoulder, Firelock.

1st. With a quick motion raise the piece, seizing it the same instant with both hands at once, the right fingers below the guard, the thumb in front of the small, and the left hand coming smartly across the body, seizes it at the swell, keeping the barrel into the hollow of the shoulder.

2d. Throw the piece smartly to a poise.

3d. & 4th. Shoulder and quit the right hand.

The foregoing parts of discipline form the bases of all military movements; therefore, the recruit ought to be well exercised in them.

When the recruits are thoroughly instructed in the preceding parts of the drill, they must be taught the movements of the company and platoon, as an immediate preparation for their joining the battalion, where uniformity and correctness is absolutely required.

The instructions in the subsequent parts are as necessary, and require as minute attention to make a compleat disciplinarian as the preceding, every thing superfluous being left cut, and the essentials of discipline regularly arranged, will make it easy and familiar to the student.

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PART II.

OF THE COMPANY AND PLATOON.

§ 24. *The Formation of the Company.*

THE Company will form at first in single rank, the files gently touching, but without crowding, each man occupying a space of about 22 inches. The commander will order (attention, if standing at ease) *shoulder, firelock.—To the right, face.—Rank and size.—March;* on which the tallest men will move to the right, and the shortest to the left; they will be then ordered to *front face*; the orderly serjeant will tell them off for rank and file; they will then be ordered, *left files, to the rear, double, go;* on which they spring back and cover, thus forming rank and file; they will then receive the word of command, *to the right close, march,* which being done, the CAUTION will be given, that the rear rank will form on the left of the front rank, *left face, march. Halt, front,* they will be again told off, doubled and closed to the right, which compleats the formation of the company.

This is the method of forming new companies, but when the men know their numbers, and the section to which they belong, they will fall into their places at once with ordered arms, in the proper unconstrained position of the soldier.

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The company, if sufficiently large, must be divided into two sub-divisions, and each sub-division into two sections, but as a section should never be less than five files in front, it often happens that the company will have to be divided into three sections, for the purpose of marching and forming.

Fig. 2. A. If the company forms two sub-divisions, and four sections in rank and file, the captain takes post on the right of the front rank, covered by a serjeant. The lieutenant on the right of the second sub-division, also covered by a serjeant. The ensign four paces in rear of the centre. The first serjeant two paces in rear of the first sub-division. The first corporal two paces in rear of the second sub-division; a corporal on the left flank of each sub-division in the front rank, and they form the two pivots on which the principal movements depend.

Being thus formed, the company will practise the following movements, and be exercised in the several motions of the firelock, as detailed in the manual.—Attention must be paid that the files are correctly closed; that the ranks have their proper distances of 27 inches or one pace, from each other, and well dressed; that the men in the rear rank cover those in the front rank exactly; that their heads are kept well up, and to the front; and that each man's deportment is truly that of the soldier.

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§ 25. *Open Order.*

REAR RANK, TAKE OPEN ORDER. On the word, *rear rank take open order*, the flank men on the right and left of the rear rank, face to the right, and take three side steps to the right and cover; or six feet nine inches, which will give nine feet from the heels of the front rank to the heels of the rear rank.

MARCH. On the word *march*, the dressers front, and the rank falls back and dresses the instant it arrives on its ground.

§ 26. *Close Order.*

REAR RANK, TAKE CLOSE ORDER. MARCH. On the word, *rear rank, take close order*, the whole will remain steady; at the word *march*, the rank will close within one pace, or 27 inches, being its former distance, and then halt and dress, covering file leaders as before.

Close order is the primary order in which a battalion, and all its parts, assemble and form on all occasions. The *open order* must only be regarded as an exception from it, and used occasionally in parades of show, &c. but must never be introduced in the field of battle.

§ 27. *Marching to the Front.*

Fig. 2. A. & B. This will be practised by each flank directing, and also by the centre: the officer will indicate which is to direct, and an object in front will immediately be taken, on which the pivot directing, will keep

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MARCH. his eye fixed: at the word, *march*, the whole step off with the left foot, taking in each step the space already described. Care must be taken to keep the shoulders square, the head up, and the eyes to the front: the touch regulating the distance of files, must be carefully preserved.—On the word, *halt, front, march*, the whole halt upon the foot advanced, and instantly face about, and step off as before.

HALT, FRONT. MARCH.

Sometimes a body marching to the rear, or in file, will receive the word *halt-front*, as one word of command, but this is only to be given to troops well disciplined; at first, they must be made to halt, face-about, and march; if dressing is necessary, it will be ordered before marching.

The being able to march straight forward for a considerable distance, is of the utmost consequence in all manœuvres, and in order to perfect the company in it, he who commands, will often go behind the flank ordered to direct, and remain in his place, taking an object in line with the flank; he will then command *march*, and by remaining steady, he will be able to direct the advance of the company, by keeping the flank file always in a line with the object.—It is also from this station that he can best perceive the squareness of the shoulders, and the deportment of the soldier, and if any thing appears incorrect, he must immediately have it adjusted.

It is necessary, in changing from *ordinary* to *quick* time, and from *quick* to *ordinary* time, that

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it be done from a short previous *halt:* although this may not appear essential with respect to small bodies, it is absolutely so to large ones, and therefore required of the smallest.

Right Turn. *Left Turn.* *Turning* on the march sometimes becomes necessary for small bodies; such as divisions moving in file, it is eligible to make them move on in front, or when moving in front, it may be proper to make them move in file, without halting, although it would not be proper for a battalion or larger body.

During the instruction of the young soldier, too much care cannot be taken to make him march straight forward, preserving the same front he set off in; this is only to be attained by a strict attention to the rules for marching, and careful observance af cadence and length of step.

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§ 28. *Of Open and Close Order on the March.*

REAR RANK, TAKE OPEN ORDER. This is generally done when marching to the front in ordinary time.—At the words, *rear rank, take open order,* the front rank continues its march, the rear rank marks time for three paces, then the whole continue the usual pace.

REAR RANK, TAKE CLOSE ORDER. On the words, *rear rank, take close order,* the rear step up quickly to close order, and instantly resumes the step with the front rank, taking care to cover files.

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§ 29. *Of Marching in File to a Flank.*

This is so essential in all deployments into line, and the internal

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movements of a battalion, that the soldier cannot be too perfect in it. It is required to be performed without the least opening out or lengthening of the file, but with perfect equality of step and cadence. Immediately after *facing*, and on the word, *march*, the whole will step off together, each locking up with the man before him; that is, left foot of the second man is placed inside of the right foot of the first, heel and toe at least square with his; if the files are very close, he will rather overstep than fall short of locking, unless the step is ordered to be shorter than the usual.—The front rank will march straight along the given line; each man must exactly cover, and not be permitted to look to right or left, as that would occasion a waving of the march and extension of the line, which is to be avoided. Although this mode of marching may appear difficult, yet with a little attention, it will be found much easier than the common method of file marching, in which the rear has to run up to gain the ground it has lost at every halt.—The same position of feet as above mentioned, takes place when the ranks are closed and marching to the front.

TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT FACE, MARCH,

§ 30. *Of the Oblique in File Marching.*

In this march, each file must consider itself as a rank, and is to

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BY FILES TO THE ——, OBLIQUE, MARCH.

preserve its original front on the march, the same as before it began, and the files continue to follow and cover during the march, but not with a square front, preserving the proper distances. At the words, *files, right* or *left oblique, march,* the whole step off as already directed in the oblique march, still preserving the body and shoulders to the original front; this is only to be done by moving the limbs from the haunches down, and keeping the body steady, which may be attained by observing the rules already given.

§ 31. *Of Wheeling Forwards from the Halt.*

TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT WHEEL, MARCH.

If the ranks are at one pace distance, the rear will look up and incline out from the hand wheeled to, in order to cover files in the front. At the word, *right,* or *left wheel, march,* step off together in the quickest time. At the word *halt,* the whole will remain perfectly steady.

§ 32. *Of Wheeling Forwards by Subdivisions from Line.*

SUBDIVISIONS TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT WHEEL.

It must be observed that the commander of the Company always takes his post with the leading subdivision, whether right or left, and when it wheels, he moves out one pace with his face towards the men, and moves back as they come round.

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Fig. 3. A. If the wheel is to the left, he places himself before the centre of the left subdivision, and during the wheel inclines to the right, now become the proper pivot flank of the subdivision; his lieutenant follows his example with the other subdivision. If the wheel is to the right, he is one pace in front of the right subdivision; the men on the right of the front rank of each subdivision faces to the right.

MARCH. On the word *March*, each subdivision steps off in wheeling time, as directed sect. 17, the commander turning towards the leading subdivision, and inclining to its proper pivot flank (the left) gives the

HALT-DRESS. word *Halt-Dress*. The lieutenant follows his example with the left subdivision.

Always in column the divisions cover and dress to the proper pivot flank, which is that when wheeled up to, preserves in natural order the divisions of the line and to their proper front, viz. to the left when the right is in front, and to the right when the left is in front; the other flank is called the reverse flank. It is the proper pivot of all divisions in column that regulates the wheeling distances, and it is the duty of the officer or non-commissioned officer to see that the divisions, to which they form the pivot, not only preserve the wheeling distance, but always dress to it.

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§ 33 *Of Wheeling Backwards by Subdivisions from Line.*

It must be regarded as a rule almost general, that all wheels of the line, when halted, should be backward, if the divisions are not above 20 files, and the ground not exceedingly rough and uneven; but should either be the case, to prevent wheeling backwards, they may face about, wheel and front: sometimes narrow ground may also prevent the wheeling backwards. These three objections seem to be the only ones against this manœuvre; whereas the great advantages of it shall be shewn hereafter. The *caution* will be given that the company will wheel backward, into open column of subdivisions, and then receive the word,

Fig. 3. F.

BY SUBDIVISIONS, ON THE LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL.

BY SUBDIVISIONS, ON THE LEFT, BACKWARDS WHEEL, on which the man on the left of the front rank of each subdivision faces to the right, and the officers step out briskly in the front of the centre of each. On the word, MARCH, each sub-division wheels backward in the quickest time (vide sect. 8); during which the officers incline towards the left or pivot flank, and, when the wheel is completed, give the word, *Halt, Dress*, placing themselves on the flanks.

MARCH.

Halt, Dress.

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§ 34. *Of Marching on an Alignment in open Column of Subdivisions.*

When the company has wheeled backwards by subdivisions from

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line, as the preceding section directs, and an object taken at a distance in the prolongation of the two pivot flanks, the commander of the company being on the pivot flank of the leading subdivision, immediately takes up intermediate points as true directors to the distant object; such as a stone, a tuft of grass, or any thing visible in a true line with the pivots and the object.—On the word march, both divisions step off together; the leader of the first, with the utmost steadiness and equality

MARCH. of step, proceeds on the points he has taken, and the leader of the second division, preserves the leader of the first, in an exact line with the first object, and observes his distance to form on, from the first division, which is taken from the front rank of the one to the front rank of the other.—The officers' attention will be sufficiently occupied by these objects, therefore they will have to entrust the care of correcting the march of the divisions, as relates to dressing, opening, closing, &c. to their non-commissioned officers.

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§ 35. *Of Wheeling into Line from Open Column of Subdivisions.*

HALT. When the company is in motion on the alignment, the instructor will command HALT, and see that the pivots are on the line, (if the

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TO THE LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE.

right is in front) he will give the word, *to the left wheel, into line*, on which the officers step out opposite the centre of their respective subdivisions, and the serjeant who covered the commander of the company, instantly runs out and places himself on a line with the pivots, and where the right will rest when it has completed its wheel; all the rest remain steady.

MARCH.

Halt, Dress.

Eyes, Front.

At the word *march*, the whole will wheel up in the quickest time; during the wheel, the officer inclines to the wheeling flanks, and gives the word, *halt, dress*: the moment the wheel is completed, the dressing must be instantly done, when the officer in a low tone of voice, orders, *eyes, front*, and takes his post in line.

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§ 36. *Of Open Columns of Subdivisions wheeling into a new direction on a moveable Pivot.*

RIGHT OR LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARDS.

Forwards.

When the leading subdivision is at a proper distance from the new direction, the commander will give the word, *right*, or *left shoulders forwards*, vide sec. 19; being on the directing pivot, he will preserve the length of step and cadence, and instantly begin to circle in from the old to the new direction, and when that is effected, he will give the word, *forwards*. The leader of the second subdivision, when he arrives on the ground, must conform to the same rules observed by the

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preceding one, and preserve the proper wheeling distance on all occasions.

Where a column is not confined on its flanks, it may be conducted in every winding or changeable direction, without the constraint of formal wheels. The chief object of this march in a roomy place is, that equal distances can be better preserved when the whole is in motion, than when each division successively halts and makes an abrupt wheel, in order to gain the new direction, which ought to be always less than the quarter circle.

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§ 37. *Of the Countermarch by Files.*

When the company countermarches by files, it must always be considered as a division of a battalion in column. The officer commanding, must first signify whether the right or left is to be in front, and the position designed by the countermarch, in order that the leaders may place themselves in front, and the covering sergeant on the new pivot: it must be regarded as an invariable rule in the countermarch, that the facings are made from the pivot flank to the one which is to become such.

TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT FACE.

On the word, *to the right, or left face,* the company will face, and the commander instantly moves to the leading flank, and his covering sergeant takes the place he has

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left, and faces to the right about.

QUICK, MARCH. At the word, *quick, march*, the whole, except the covering sergeant step off together, the officer wheeling short to his right, if on the right, and to his left, if on the left, round the rear rank, and conducts his pivot front rank man, close to his covering serjeant, who remained to mark the ground, he then

HALT, FRONT, DRESS. gives the word, *halt, front, dress*; it will then stand with its front changed and the officer takes his place.

Companies, or their divisions, must not stand when brought up in file in that position, until they minutely cover, but the instant the leading man has gained his place, the word, halt, front, will be given, and in this position they will close and dress. Every care must be taken to prevent the files from lengthening out, which they are apt to do.

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§ 38. *Of Wheeling on the Centre of the Company.*

There is sometimes a necessity for this wheel, although it is not generally used in movements, being only applicable to changing the position of the line, and wheeling the company on the same space of ground it occupies.—It will be accustomed to wheel half backwards and half forwards, pliable in every shape which circumstances may require. The commands ought to

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be given in a clear, loud, and decided tone; they are those which follow:

COMPANY ON YOUR CENTRE TO THE { Right / Left / Right about / Left about } *Wheel.*

MARCH. If the wheel is to be made to the right, or right about, the right subdivision will wheel backward, and the left forward, and *vice versa*, when the wheel is to be made to the left, or left about. On the word *march*, the whole will move together in the quickest time, the flanks regulating themselves by the centre during the wheel: when the degree of wheel required, is performed, the commander of the company will order, *halt*, *dress*, and it will instantly square itself from that flank no which the officer is posted.

Halt, Dress.

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§ 39. *Of increasing and diminishing the Front of an Open Column Halted.*

It must be observed as a general rule in diminishing the front of a column, by doubling divisions, or sections, that the subdivision or section, on the reverse flank, is the one on which the other should double. Thus, when the right is in front, the doubling will be in rear of the right; and *vice versa* when the left is in front: this situation enables the column at all times to form the line to the flank, with its divisions, in their proper order, by wheeling up on the pivot flanks; and in increas-

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ing the front of a column, the rear subdivisions always oblique to the pivot flank, so that when the right is in front, the obliquing will be to the left, and to the right when the left is in front, invariably.

INCREASING.

Fig. 4—B.

FORM COMPANY. REAR SUBDIVISIONS, LEFT OBLIQUE. QUICK, MARCH. FORWARDS. HALT, DRESS.

When the company is standing in open column of subdivisions, the right in front, the commander will caution *form company*, and turning round, facing the rear subdivision as it forms up, orders, *rear subdivision, left oblique. Quick, march.* When it has obliqued so as to open its right flank, he gives the word, *forwards*, and when it arrives in a line with the first subdivision, he orders, *halt, dress*, and instantly takes his post on the pivot flank.

DIMINISHING.

Fig. 4—A.

FORM SUBDIVISIONS. LEFT SUBDIVISON, INWARDS FACE. QUICK, MARCH. HALT, FRONT, LEFT, DRESS.

On receiving the cautionary command, to *form subdivisions*, the covering serjeant falls back to mark the pivot where the left flank of the subdivision is to rest. The commander advancing one pace, orders *left subdivision, inwards face*, and immediately on facing, the two leading files disengage to the rear. On the word, *quick march*, the file will pass round behind the serjeant, and when at a proper distance, receives the words, *halt, front, left, dress*, the commander is now on the left of the first subdivision, and the lieutenant on the left of the second.

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§ 40. *Of increasing and diminishing the Front of an Open Column on the March.*

INCREASING.

Fig. 4—D.

FORM COMPANY. REAR SUBDIVISION, LEFT OBLIQUE, QUICK, MARCH. *Forwards.* ORDINARY.

The company marching in open column of subdivisions, the right in front, receives the cautionary command, *form company;* the commander on turning round orders, *rear subdivision, left oblique, quick, march,* on which it obliques to the left, until the right flank is open, then it receives the word *forwards:* the front division marches with the utmost steadiness, and when the rear gets up with it, the commander then gives the word *ordinary,* taking his post on the pivot flank.

DIMINISHING.

Fig. 4—C.

FORM SUBDIVISIONS. LEFT SUBDIVISION, MARK TIME. QUICK, OBLIQUE. FORWARDS.

When the caution is given, to *form subdivisions,* the commander of the company instantly advances one step, and orders, *left subdivision, mark time,* which will be done until the right one, which continues its march steadily, has cleared its flank; he will then order, *quick oblique,* which it does until it properly covers the right one; he then gives the word *forwards,* on which it takes the step from the front subdivision, preserving wheeling distances; the commander will then be on the pivot flank of the first subdivision, and the lieutenant on that of the rear or second subdivision.

Here observe that the operations of increasing and diminishing the front of columns will frequent-

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ly occur in the march of large bodies, and require to be performed with great accuracy; particular care must be taken that the transition from one position to the other be made as quick as possible with order, and that the front subdivision always march in the regular length of pace and cadence; also that the exact wheeling distance between the divisions be preserved. During the operations of increasing and diminishing, the ranks must be closed, arms carried, and great attention paid by every individual.

The above directions will apply to increasing and diminishing by sections, equally as well as in subdivisions, as each repeats the same operations.

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§ 41. *Of the Company in open Column of Subdivisions, passing a short defile by breaking off Files.*

Fig. 5.

THREE FILES BREAK OFF TO THE RIGHT, TURN.

Suppose the company in open column of subdivisions the right in front, on the march.—When the first division arrives within a few paces of the defile it will receive the word, *three files break off, to the right turn*; the named files will immediately turn to the right and double close in the rear of the three adjoining files, the commander closing himself into the flank of those that are formed in the front rank. The instant that the second subdivision arrives on the spot where the first contracted its front, the same words will be given and the same rules observed.

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But should it be required to diminish the front two or more files, in addition to those already doubled, the defile get narrower and the front cannot pass in its present form, the commander of the leading division will order (say two more files) *right turn*, on which those already in the rear will incline to the right in order to make room for the ordered number of files to double in the manner already described.—The files in the rear must lock up so as not to impede the march of the succeding division.

Two Files, Right, Turn.

Fig. 5—E.

As the defile widens the commander will order a certain number of files (say two) *to the front*, instantly the named files will turn to their left and lengthen their pace forming up file by file, and immediately resume the step with those already formed; and those files which remain in the rear, oblique to the left, covering to the left file until they are also ordered to form.

Two Files, to the Front.

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§ 42. *Of forming to the Front from File.*

The company marching in file, may form to its front either in sections, subdivisions, or company: suppose the right in front; on receiving the word *halt, front*, the company will immediately halt and face to its left and may be wheeled in any manner required—or, if on the march in a narrow defile, where the company is obliged to pass it in

Halt, Front.

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files; on its opening, sections, or subdivisions may form, in the following manner.—On the word *front form*, the division ordered will form, by the whole making a half face, except the left front file, who halts, the rest forming up with him and covering; the commander, taking his post on the left, on its being properly dressed, orders *eyes left;* the whole then take their direction from him.

Front, Form.

Eyes, Left.

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§ 43. *Of forming from File to either Flank.*

If the company is marching from the right in file, it has only to halt and front, to be formed to the left flank; and in marching to the right, by halting and fronting, it will be formed to the right flank; but if the right is in front, and the company marching to the left, and required to form to the right, it will receive the word, *right, form,* when the front rank man instantly turns to his right and halts, the rear rank man moves round at the same time and covers him; all the rest of the company as they come up, make a half turn to their left, move round successively, and dress by the right; the file covers must close up well to their file leaders in this movement.

Halt, Front.

Right, Form.

The company must be frequently practised in file marching in quick time, until the men acquire the utmost precision in this movement, which is

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highly essential in forming close columns, and deployments into line, &c.

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§ 44. *Forming to either Flank from Open Column of Subdivisions.*

HALT, LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE; MARCH. TO THE RIGHT FORM COMPANY.

Halt, Right Wheel.

Halt, Right Dress.

Left oblique, Forwards.

Halt, Right Wheel, Halt, Dress.

The company marching in ordinary time in open column of subdivisions, will form to its left on receiving the word, *halt, left wheel into line; march*, and proceed as directed in sec. 35: but if it is to form to its right flank, the command will be given, *to the right form company*, on which the commanders of the respective companies or divisions, shift to the right flank, and instantly the leading subdivision will receive the order from its own officer, *halt, right wheel*, and when the wheel is performed, he gives the word, *halt, right dress*, posting himself on the right, and dresses it on the intended line of formation. The officers of the other subdivisions on the leading one being formed, give the word *left oblique*, in order to pass the one already formed, (four oblique paces will be sufficient) which being effected, they receive the word, *forwards*, and will move on in the rear; when each division arrives successively on the left of the one last formed, the words *halt, right-wheel, halt, dress*, will be given, and immediately on dressing, the officer takes his post in the line.

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§ 45. *Of the Company moving to Front, in order to gain ground to a Flank, by a March in Echellon of Sections.*

The march in echellon may be considered as a column of a particular kind, and is easily converted into either close or open column, or columns, and may be thrown into the echellon position, to either right or left at pleasure: it is particularly useful in the movements of a battalion or larger body, requiring to gain ground to a flank, and may be substituted instead of the oblique. The general use and application of it shall be shewn hereafter: the company will perform it by sections in the following manner.

BY SECTIONS TO THE RIGHT. Fig. 6—A.

The company marching to the front, will receive the word, *by sections, to the right,* on which the right hand man marks time for two or three paces, (if each section consists of five files, three paces by the wheeling flank will give about the eighth of a circle; if the twelfth part of the circle is required, two paces only) during which the sections are wheeling on their pivots at the fourth step, and on the word,

FORWARDS.

forwards, the whole will move direct to the front, which each section has now acquired, the commander of each on the right being now the proper pivot, the march in echellon is continued.

FORM COMPANY.

On the word, *form company*, the pivot men mark time for three

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—B—
FORWARDS.
SUBDIVISIONS TO THE LEFT, THREE PACES.
—C—

paces, turning to the left their original front, the sections wheel back into line; at the third pace, the whole will move forwards, and continue the march: when they receive the order, *subdivisions to the left three paces*, they proceed as above directed.

To perform this march with accuracy, is of great importance; it therefore ought to be practised until perfection in it is attained; for if it is not performed correctly, the end and design of it is defeated, and disorder must inevitably ensue.

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§ 46. *From Two Ranks form into Three Ranks.*

FORM THREE DEEP.
RIGHT FACE.
QUICK, MARCH.
Fig. 7—A.
HALT, FRONT.

When the company is halted, and told off into three sections, it will receive the command, *form three deep*, on which the third section immediately steps back two paces, the word, *right face*, will then be given, and when faced covering exactly, it will receive the word *quick, march*, the front rank steps off, the other rank marks time till it has passed, and then follows exactly, covering. When the leading man has arrived on the right, the commander of the company orders, *halt, front*, on which the whole halt, face to the left, and instantly cover the files in front.

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§ 47. *From three Ranks form Rank and File.*

This must be done when the company is halted: on being order-

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FORM TWO DEEP. LEFT FACE. QUICK, MARCH. *Halt, Front, Dress, Up.*

Fig. 7—B.

ed to *form two deep*, the rear rank will instantly step back one pace, and on the word *left face*, the rear rank of both divisions face, they will then receive the word, *quick, march*, on which the rank of the left subdivision steps short, until those of the right get up to them; they then move on with them, as their rear rank in file, and when they have cleared the left of the platoon, the commander who is now on the left, gives the word, *halt, front, dress, up;* on being dressed with the standing part of the company, he will then resume his post on the right.

A battalion standing in open column, may thus diminish or increase the front of its companies before it forms in line; but if it is already formed in line, and required to increase, it must make sufficient intervals, and if it diminish, it must close up immediately on forming three deep. Should it be posted, and is to lengthen out a flank by the aid of its rear rank, without deranging its front, that rank will be ordered to wheel backwards by subdivisions: the second subdivision will close up to the first of each company: officers being appointed to lead these two companies, will conduct them to the flank ordered, and form up with those already formed. In this manner might a line consisting of several battalions, be lengthened out to either flank at pleasure.

Fig. 7. C.

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§ 48. *Of the Exercise of a Company.*

The foregoing instructions, and the principles they contain, must be perfectly understood by every individual of a company previous to joining a battalion for active service; and in order to attain a thorough practical knowledge thereof, the company should be divided into three squads, each officer superintending one, often beginning with the first principles laid down, and progressing through the whole company exercise; by these means the officers will be improving as well as the men; but this must not be permitted without the officers possess at least a theoretical knowledge of the system, otherwise their instructions and their exercising the men, cannot produce good effect.

The platoon exercise added to the foregoing, comprehends all that is necessary to be known for joining the battalion.

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§ 49. *Of the formation of the Platoon.*

The platoon is always formed in three ranks at close order with shouldered firelocks; the files lightly touching without crowding, each man occupying the same space he does in rank and file—about 22 inches.

The commander takes post on the right of the front rank, covered by a serjeant in the rear rank; the other officers and serjeants form a fourth or supernumerary rank, three paces from the rear rank. The platoon being thus formed, will be told off into subdivisions and sections, if sufficiently strong

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but a section should never be less than five files; it often happens that the platoon is divided into three sections only, for the purposes of march and manœuvre; the corporals will form the pivots the same as rank and file.

The present acceptation of the word platoon is, a company formed in three ranks; and although the platoon has an exercise properly so called for itself, yet the whole of the manual, and all the manœuvres laid down for the company, are applicable to it as well as all the battalion manœuvres, which may either be performed by companies or platoons.

The platoon must be sized from flanks to centre in the same manner that the company is in rank and file, and may be done when sized in single rank, the same as the company, when countermarched, and told off from the left, *front, centre, rear*, then ordered to double; those named for the centre rank stand fast, the man on the right springs into the rear rank, and the third man from the right springs into the front at the word *go*, and closes to the right by the side step.

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§ 50. *The Platoon Movements.*

Although the platoon must frequently practise the whole of the company exercise, yet there are some movements necessary in order to make every man know his duty and station in a platoon; the following must therefore be attended to.

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By Ranks.

1st. March in single file, by ranks in successive order, along the squares of the parade—the same in three ranks.

2d. March and wheel by ranks of five files (the smallest section) if in six files; file off singly, and double up, preserving distances, step and cadence.

3d. March and wheel by sections, subdivisions, and whole ranks, in platoon order.

4th. March to front and rear, the ranks ten or twelve paces asunder, preserving the squareness of the flanks, and the true perpendicular line of march.

5th. Oblique by ranks, at a given distance, and observe that it is performed agreeably to the rule sec. 9.

6th. March in file to each flank, front and form.

7th. Each flank alternately advances five or six paces, the ranks advance and dress to them.

8th. Open and close ranks.

In Close Ranks and Files.

9th. Open and close to the flanks by the side step.

10th. March and wheel in every direction by subdivisions and platoon, in ordinary and quick time: the wheels must be made in wheeling time.—Step out.—Step short.—Change feet, and mark time during the march.

11th. Change front by the countermarch by files.

12th. Oblique march to right and left.

13th. March to the flanks, form to the front or to either flank, without opening out.

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14th. Subdivisions double on the march, and again form up—the same by sections.

15th. File off from each flank, (as in the passage of lines) *halt, front,* wheel up and form the line.

16th. Wheel backwards by subdivisions; march along the line, form to either flank by wheeling up, or to front by obliquing.

17th. From platoon form rank and file.

18th. From rank and file, form three deep.

19th. Advance and retire two or more files, and dress to them.

20th. The manual exercise by ranks and by platoon.

These are necessary movements to be practised by the platoon: they may be introduced in whatever succession shall appear most convenient, or found most proper: great exactness and precision is required, agreeably to the rules already given.

THE PLATOON EXERCISE.

§ 51. *Of the Priming and Loading Motions.*

1st. Throw the piece to a recover with a smart spring of the left wrist, seizing it with both hands at once, in the same position as the first motion of the cock, except that the right hand seizes the piece by the small; the left hand must be as high as the eyes, the cock gently touching the breast, and the barrel perpendicular.

2d. Bring the piece smartly to the priming position, (see 14, 15,

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16 and 17 articles of the manual) and immediately place the thumb of the right hand against the face of the steel, the fingers clenched, and the wrist a little turned out.

Prime and Load.

3d. Throw open the pan, holding the piece steady directly to front with the left hand.

4th. Handle cartridge, vide art. 16th manual.

5th. Prime, vide 17th.
6th. Shut pan, do. 18th.
7th. Load with cartridge, 19th.
8th. Draw rammer, 20th.
9th. Ram down cartridge, 21st.
10th. Return rammer, 22d.
11th. Shoulder firelock, 23d.

These directions are for the front rank, but they apply to the centre and rear ranks with these exceptions: that the centre rank come to the priming position, with the butt of the piece as high as the fifth rib, and the muzzle raised in proportion. The rear rank comes to the priming position with the butt high under the arm, and kept well forward, so as the right hand may move round to the cartridge box with ease, and the muzzle elevated in proportion.

The whole of these motions must be done as quick as possible, until the return rammer, when a pause will be made; the right file of the front rank will step out three paces to give the time for the return rammer and shoulder, which must be done together; then he will instantly step into his place in the rank.

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To make ready as Front Rank.

As front Rank, Make Ready, Take Aim, Fire.

Spring the piece smartly to a recover, as before explained, instantly placing the thumb of the right hand upon the cock and force it down agreeably to the second motion of the 12th article of the manual. *Take aim and fire,* as directed in the 13th and 14th articles of the manual, and immediately *prime and load,* unless otherwise ordered.

As Centre Rank.

As Centre Rank, Make Ready, Take Aim, Fire.

Come to a recover, at the same time stepping about nine inches to the right with the right foot; the left must be kept fast with the toe pointed to the front. *Cock, and take aim* as before directed; on bringing the piece to the level, throw the principal weight of the body on the right foot, and incline forwards opposite the interval of the front rank. Fire as above directed, and instantly bring up the left heel within one inch of the right, and proceed with the priming and loading; on bringing down the right hand after shouldering, step back to the former position, covering the front file.

As Rear Rank.

As Rear Rank, Make Ready.

In coming to the recover, step out with the right foot about twelve inches, and on coming to a level with the piece, step forwards with the left in the interval of the centre rank, throwing the principal weight of the body on it and inclining for-

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Take Aim, Fire. wards, so as the muzzle will pass the front rank. *Fire*, as already directed: on coming to the priming position, bring back the left foot, and proceed with loading, &c. at the same time with the centre and front ranks: on dropping the right hand after shouldering, step into the former position, covering the files of centre and front ranks.

§ 52. *Of the Firings.*

The firing direct to front has been already shewn, but it sometimes becomes necessary to fire obliquely to right and left; the angle required ought not to exceed 45 degrees, if it can be avoided; these firings must be practised in closed ranks, and files opened to 30 inches. If the angle exceeds 45 degrees, the platoon may be thrown into the echellon position in any part of the circle less than a quarter, and by this means direct the fire on the object required.

Firing by ranks in succession, and by files, must also be frequently practised, until each individual has acquired the promptness and the steadiness necessary in a well disciplined corps.

In practising the firing motions, a piece of wood may be used instead of a flint; also 6 pieces of wood, the common size of a cartridge, in order to instruct the men in the manner of holding the cartridge, which must be taken out of the piece immediately after exercise.

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§ 53. *Of Filing Arms.*

FILE ARMS. This is substituted for grounding, particularly when the men are allowed to leave the ranks for a short time, and is done by the line being formed three deep, all at ordered arms. At the word, *file arms*, the front rank goes to the right about, the centre rank to the right, the rear and centre files join the butt of the rammers first, and the front files last, by placing theirs between them; all the locks will be turned outward, and the pieces stand in a triangular form. The ranks will come to their former front, and receive the words, *to the right face, break ranks*; they may then walk about, except the two men received last into the platoon, who must stand as guards upon the arms.—When the drum beats the long roll, each man will instantly repair to his place in the ranks, and stand by his arms. On the word, *take arms*, seize the piece with the left hand, about half way between the guard and the swell, and separate the pieces in raising them. On each rank coming to its proper front, it will stand with ordered arms, unless commanded to shoulder. This is certainly much safer for the arms than grounding, especially on damp or wet ground, where they would be liable to injury, even in laying a short time.

TO THE RIGHT FACE.

BREAK RANKS.

TAKE ARMS.

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§ 54. *Of the Funeral Exercise.*

Although this does not properly belong to the manual nor platoon exercises, but being performed by companies or platoons, and sometimes a larger body, it may not be improper to notice it here, as it will require to be occasionally practised at the funerals of officers and soldiers.

When the party is ordered out that is intended to perform the funeral honours, it will assemble on the named ground, and march from thence in files with trailed arms and without music, in inverted order, to the place where the corpse lies; there form at open order with ordered arms. When the corpse is brought out, the men will shoulder and wheel in front; the procession will then form in the following order: the platoon in front, the clergy, the corpse, the mourners and friends of the deceased, the officers in inverted order, the soldiers with side arms. When the whole is ready to move, the platoon will receive the words *Reverse arms, forwards march*, and on stepping off with the left foot, raise the right hand, seize the piece backhanded at the swell, turn the muzzle to the rear, seize the small with the left hand, thumb up, and pass the right hand to the rear of the body, taking hold at the swivel, with the lock out and the butt as high as the left eye, proceed to the place of interment with a slow solemn step, the music in front play-

Reverse Arms, Forwards March.

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ing a dead march. When the platoon arrives at the place of interment, it will *halt*, and receive the words *right and left backwards wheel, march*, the ranks being in open order at half distances, will wheel backwards from the centre of each rank and form two ranks faced inwards; when the wheel is performed, they will get the word, *halt dress*; and the procession will pass through. During the time the corpse is interring, the platoon will be drawn up on one side of the grave and ordered to *rest arms*, which is done by letting go the hold of the piece in the rear of the body and bringing the muzzle down on the left toe, lock out, placing both hands on the butt, and the left cheek resting on the back of the hands, the right knee a little bent. They will next receive the word *attention*, on which the whole will spring up sharp, heads well up and stand firm. At the word *shoulder firelock*, seize the piece at the small with the right hand, thumb down, and with the left at the swell throw it up smartly to the shoulder, with one motion, seizing the butt with the left, and bring down the right hand to its proper place; the words *prime and laad* will then be given; three rounds will be fired over the grave, and performed agreeably to the platoon exercise. Immediately after the third fire they will be ordered to *recover arms, shoulder firelock, half*

Halt.
Right and Left, Backwards Wheel, March.
Halt Dress.
Rest Arms.
Attention.
Shoulder, Firelock.
Prime and Laad.
Make Ready
Take Aim,
Fire.
Recover Arms.
Shoulder, Firelock.
Half-Cock, Firelock.

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Shut Pan. To the —— Face, Quick March. | *cock firelock*, and *shut pan*, on which the platoon will march off with the right in front, the ceremonies being ended.

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§ 55. *Of the Instruction of Officers.*

All officers must be instructed in every individual circumstance required of a recruit or a soldier, and accustomed to give words of command with energy and precision, which is so very essential to the just performance of all military discipline.—Every officer on joining a regiment, must be examined by the commanding officer, or some fit person, and if found deficient in the knowledge required, he must be ordered to be exercised until he is master of the duties which his station demands, before he is permitted to take any command.

Squads of Officers should be formed and exercised by a field officer; they must be marched and wheeled in all directions, to the front and rear, oblique, and to each flank, but especially in line, at platoon distances, and shown how to preserve pivots on the line, and at true wheeling distance; how to ascertain perpendiculars and the squareness of wheels; they must change direction in file, cover in column, and be accustomed to perform every manœuvre in the proper length of pace and cadence. They must learn from the number of files in divisions to accurately judge the ground for each, which must instantly be determined by the eye.

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It is not only necessary for an officer to know the post he should occupy in all changes of situation, the commands to be given, and the general intention of the required movements; but he should make himself master of the principles on which each is founded, that he may be able to instruct others.

The compleat instruction of an officer necessarily enlarges with his situation, until it at last takes in the whole circle of military science, and therefore requires his unremitting exertions.

PART III.

OF THE BATTALION.

HAVING shewn all the movements and discipline that is necessary for qualifying the company or platoon for joining the battalion, it must be observed that a perfect uniformity in the formation and arrangement of all companies, and battalions, is indispensably necessary for the just performance of the combined movements; and for the attainment of that end, it may not be improper to introduce some preliminary observations preparatory to the movements of the battalion.

CIRCUMSTANCES PREPARATORY TO THE MOVEMENTS OF THE BATTALION.

§ 56. *Of Commands.*

All words of command must be given short, quick, and loud, particularly the words, halt,

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march, and wheel; with strong emphasis always placed on the last word of command, so as to be caught and repeated from right to left of a line, and from front to rear of a column in the shortest time possible. The alterations in carrying *arms*, changing *step*, *wheeling*, *obliquing*, *halting*, *marching*, and almost every operation of a battalion in line or in column, may be done from the word of the commander of each; but there are many occasions in column, and in forming the line, where leaders of divisions must repeat, or give the words, *march*, *wheel*, *halt*, *front*, *dress*, &c. to their respective divisions, as they find necessary.

Every officer must accustom himself to give the words of command in the full extent of his voice, even to small bodies, as it is not only necessary that he should be heard by them, but by the leaders of others, who are dependent on his motions. The execution of the motions can only be expected in proportion to the firm, decided, and proper manner in which every officer gives his words of command.

The officer who is not capable of exercising the body committed to his care, cannot be entrusted with it in the face of an enemy: it is impossible for him to be cool, collected and firm, in the time of danger, nor can he profit of circumstances: he ought to consider that the fate of many depends on his ill or well acquitting himself of his duty; and this consideration alone ought to prompt to diligence. It is not sufficient to advance with bravery; it is necessary to have that degree of intelligence which belongs to every officer in his sta-

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tion; without it, soldiers will never act with spirit and animation, nor can they place any reliance on the capacity of those who conduct them.

On every occasion when words of command are not heard, if the directing body has made a change of situation, the rest will conform to it, as soon as the officer perceives what is meant to be done; the eye will often discover the propriety of the movement when the ear has not nor cannot receive the explanatory word of command. In the midst of surrounding noises, the eye and the ear should be attentive only to its own officer, the loudness of whose commands, instead of creating confusion, will reconcile to the hurry of action.

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§ 57. *Of the Movements.*

As every movement is divided into its distinct parts, and each executed by explanatory and separate words of command, it is necessary that all alterations of position in large bodies, should begin from a short previous halt, except when the head of a column on the march takes a new direction, or increasing and diminishing their front, which may be done while in motion. But in parades of review, when the lesson for the exercise of the day is given, and each officer perfectly understands the movements in succession, or when the body is so small as to be within the compass of his voice, keeping such bodies in constant motion will appear more showy, and may be permitted: these must be considered as occasional exceptions, and not applicable to large bodies, wherein con-

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cert movements are required, and hurry must be avoided.

As the principles of moving, forming and dressing upon given and determined points are just, a pause between the changes of each situation, is essentially necessary to the movements of great bodies, and should seldom be omitted in small ones. All quick alterations of position of a large body on the move must prove false and defective, therefore a halt (however short) should be made; the squareness of dressing, the correct relative position of the whole, and the perpendicular direction of the march can be thereby ascertained. It is not intended that unnecessary time should be taken up in these halts, but that each individual may be instantly apprized of the following movement, and the circumstances which require it.

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§ 58. *Of the distance of Files.*

On every occasion, except in the instruction of recruits and squads, on some regimental parades or inspections, and in particular exercise of the light company, the files must be close, so that each soldier, when in his true position under arms shouldered, and in rank, will just feel with the touch of his elbow his neighbour with whom he dresses, (it is generally supposed each man on an average, will occupy about 22 inches) nor in any situation of movement in front, must he relinquish such touch, which becomes the principal direction for preserving order in action, when every other aid fails.

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None can doubt when a battalion arrives at the object of attack in *close files*, that both its impulse and weight of fire, are greater in the same extent of front, than when the files are open; and should crowding be apprehended, it is more eligible to cause a division to fall back and double, than to have openings where the enemy will undoubtedly penetrate. Besides, the correct march of a battalion or line, is not attainable in open files, because its principal guidance, the touch of the files, is lost; a wavering on the march must inevitably take place, and each man is obliged to turn his head, which distorts his body, in order to preserve a required distance, on which opening and closing ensue, and the whole move loose and unconnected. If this must necessarily happen in a single battalion, it may easily be imagined what influence it will have on a line when it arrives near an enemy; whereas, if the files are close, each man square to the front, and the movement along just lines, in an equal pace and cadence, at every instance of movement and attack, each individual will feel a sense of his own superiority, which perfect order always inspires.

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§ 59. *Of the distance of Ranks.*

There are only two distances of ranks, viz. *open* and *close*. When open, they are three paces asunder, when close, they are one pace; but when halted and to fire, they are still closer locked up.

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Close ranks or order, is the habitual order in which troops should at all times be formed, and in which they should move.—Open ranks or order, must only be regarded as an occasional exception, made on situations of parade for the purposes of show and inspection.

The distances of ranks, and of files, properly relate to the trained soldier, but in order to acquire independence, and the proper command of his limbs and body, he must be frequently exercised in the course of his tuition at open ranks and files.

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§ 60. *Of the depth of Formation.*

The formation of the battalion when single, must be exactly the same as when acting in line: the fundamental order of infantry, in which they should always form and act, and for which their various operations are calculated, is in *three ranks*. The formation in *two ranks*, is an occasional exception that may be made from it, where an extended front is to be occupied, or where an irregular enemy, who deals only in fire, is to be opposed. In time of peace, for the giving a more extended front, it may be permitted on parades of show, but it must not at the same time be neglected to practise frequently in three ranks.

The formation in two ranks and at open files is only calculated for light infantry in pursuit of a timid enemy, but not for assailing or resisting an opposite regular line with any prospect of success. That no general could manage a consider-

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able army, if formed in this manner, is evident; even one of thirty thousand men would occupy near four miles in front, whereas, if it is formed in three deep, it will not occupy more than two thirds of that distance, and is rendered more impenetrable. In no service is the fire and consistency of the third rank given up; it serves to fill up the vacancies made in the others in action, and its vacancies are supplied from the fourth rank. Experience has taught that without these, a battalion or line would soon be in a single rank.

The great science and object of movement being to act with superiority on chosen points, it is never the intention of an able general to have all his men at the same time in action; he will, by skill and manœuvre, attack a particular part and endeavour to bring the many to act against the few; this is impracticable in a line of two deep and at open files, because in this manner it never could be brought to make or stand an attack with bayonets, nor would it have any prospect of resisting the charge of determined cavalry. These are not chimerical ideas; they are founded on experience and the present practice of all the nations of Europe.

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§ 61. *Of the March.*

The general intention.

1st. Every military movement is intended to be made with the greatest quickness that is consistent with order, and without hurry or fatigue to the troops.

As the uniformity of position, cadence, and length of step, produce that freedom of march on

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which every thing depends, the soldier must be carefully trained, and not suffered to join the battalion until he is made perfect in this very essential duty.

Degrees of March.

2d. The different degrees of march have been already detailed in the first and second parts; to these must the troops be trained, so as to march in the time ordered with regularity, without drum or music. On the uniformity of position, cadence and length of step, can troops alone depend for the preservation of their line in advancing upon an enemy, when the dust, smoke, rain, fog, and other local circumstances, render it impossible to see the distant points; nor can the uncertain time given by timid musicians be depended upon.

3d. Although a division or platoon may sometimes run, when an advantageous position is to be gained, and a battalion may sometimes march quick, yet the hurrying of a large body, when marching to front, either in column or line, will certainly produce confusion, and therefore must be prohibited, and is *never* to be risked in the presence of an enemy before encounter: the quickest step, which is 120 in a minute, may be used on urgent occasions; beyond that degree of quickness in a large body it will certainly become a run, on which disorder ensues.

The descriptions and methods of performing the oblique, the side, and the backsteps, stepping out, stepping short, marking time, changing feet, &c. are fully detailed in the first part, and are all occasionally used on the march; they therefore require

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minute and particular attention of officers and soldiers, in order to acquire the chief end of discipline—*uniformity.*

§ 62. *Of Wheeling.*

1st. The manner in which all wheels are performed being already detailed, it now only remains to shew the general intention. All wheels are made either forwards or backwards, and always in progressive movement; in general, they are made forwards, but particular occasions require that they should be made backwards; both answer the same design, viz. of changing the position of the front, for the purpose of putting the body in motion on a new given direction.

2d. A reason may be given why wheels should be made in the quickest or wheeling time: when a number of divisions in column follow each other in succession, and are to wheel above the one sixth of the circle upon the same ground, it becomes necessary, in order to prevent false distances, and a lengthening out of the column, that the divisions make their wheels in a pace considerably quicker than what the body of the column is moving at; therefore, when marching in ordinary time, the wheels may be made in quick time, and if marching in quick time, they must be made in the quickest or wheeling pace.

3d. Wheels made on a halted pivot, are from line into column, from column into line, and generally by the column of march or manœuvre, when the front of it is considerable, and the wheel by

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which its direction is to be changed, exceeds the quarter circle: in this case the pause after the wheel may be avoided, as the true distance is of more importance than correct dressing; but when the wheel is less than the quarter circle, the halt must be made, and a correct front obtained.—Should a column be marching in quick time, it is evident that its wheels must be proportionably quickened to disengage in time for the pivot point of the following division.

4th. When the column of companies, subdivisions or sections is frequently obliqued to change its direction of march, and is permitted to do it on the *moveable pivot*, (sec. 36) instead of the halted pivot, the directions already given for performing it must be attended to.

5th. The particular occasions which require that *wheels* should be made *backwards*, are, such as a line into open column of platoons, subdivisions, or sections, the flank sides of the square or oblong: the line already formed may thus be prolonged to either flank; and it is advantageously used in marching off parades, when guards or companies are of different strength: it is also essentially necessary in narrow ground. By this means, although divisions in battalion or line should be unequal, yet all their pivot flanks will, after the wheel, remain perfectly dressed; the distances will of course be just, the line of march accurately preserved, and by wheeling up each division, the line will be again correctly and speedily dressed: whereas, in wheeling *forwards* from line into

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open columns, suppose the divisions of equal strength, the pivots and distances will not be true after the wheels, because the least over or under wheel of any one division, and even the different sizes of men, will derange them. But suppose the divisions are of unequal strength, independent of the pivots not covering, the distances which the column marches off at, must be changed during the march, otherwise strong divisions will have to wheel into the space which weaker ones had left, when the column is to wheel up and form; hence confusion will arise as a natural consequence.

To prevent the inconveniences just described, it must be regarded as a rule almost general, that all wheels by platoons, or smaller divisions from battalion or line, (when halted) into open column, should be made *backwards;* and all wheels from open column into line, *forwards:* there are only two exceptions which can be made, viz. in narrow grounds, where there is not room for such wheels; and a division consisting of more than 20 files in front, and the ground very uneven; but in this case the division may *face about, wheel,* and then *halt-front,* which will obviate the difficulty.

6th. In wheeling *forwards,* the command is, *to the right,* or *to the left wheel:* In wheeling *backwards,* the command is, *on the right,* or *on the left backwards wheel.* When the wheel is made backwards *on* the left, the right will be in front; and when *on* the right, the left will be in front.—In wheeling *forwards,* the standing flank man faces

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outwards from his division: in wheeling *backwards*, the pivot flank man is the standing one, and will face inwards and remain steady: the divisions, however unequal, will always cover on that hand, which will not be the case when the wheel is made forwards.

7th. The quarter circle described by the wheeling man, is nearly one half more than the front of his division; it is therefore necessary that it should perform the wheel in the same time that it would march over a space equal to its extent in front, and also preserve its true distance from the preceding division. The wheel must be quickened, or the step lengthened, and perhaps both applied in proportion to the general march, so as no stop or retardment of the succeeding divisions may take place.

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§ 63. *Of the Points of March.*

Where the ground is clear, and the body can move directly forwards, the leader in front must take care to conduct it on a true perpendicular line; and for that purpose he must take up his line of march upon certain given objects at some distance, to which he will add intermediate ones of his own choosing, in a direct line with those already given, such as a stone, tuft of grass, the stump of a tree, or any thing that will accurately determine the true line, in order to prolong it. If two objects are given him on the spot he stands, or to be brought into a line with himself, the intermediate ones may not be wanted; but if one

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object only is given, the intermediate ones become necessary, as marching straight upon one without wavering, is not to be depended upon; and as he loses one he must take up another, and never have less than two, until he approaches near the distant or first given point.

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§ 64. *Of the Alignment.*

1st. The alignment is a movement by which troops are made to march and form on any part of a straight line which connects two given points. On the accurate observance of which depends the most essential movements and formations; therefore every relative aid must be employed in order to ensure it.

2d. If the troops are to form in a straight line, the two points of the alignment must be first ascertained; the one they enter upon, and on which one of the flanks rests, is called the point of *appui*, and the other the point of *formation*, to which the front of the body is directed, and by which it must be dressed.

3d. In formations of attack, the lines must be straight, otherwise the troops in advancing, will inevitably fall into confusion; but lines of defence may be curved in order to occupy and follow the advantages of the ground: in both cases, the files must be closed.

4th. When a battalion, or the parts of a battalion, come up successively into line, the outward flank of the last formed body must always be con-

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sidered as the point of *appui* or support of the succeeding one; the locking and lining of the soldier in forming, is invariably towards the point of appui, and the correction of dressing is always from that point towards the reverse. This principle must be observed from the smallest to the largest bodies, as the chief regulator of the division, the battalion and the line.

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§ 65. *Of Points of Formation.*

1st. Although it may seem immaterial whether a flank of a battalion is placed a few yards from the given point when acting singly, or whether the line formed on, is exactly directed on any certain point, yet when we consider a battalion as a part of a more extensive body, all its positions relative to others, and to given points, if its formations are not just, it will create general confusion, and give false distances and directions to those whose situation must be determined by it, we must conclude that there is great necessity for every single battalion being accustomed to make its changes of position always on determined points, and is an object which commanders must constantly hold in view, and have their adjutants and officers, instructed accordingly.

2d. The line may be first determined by two objects, or by placing two men, one on the point of appui, and the other at any given distance; these being placed according to the views of the commander, the line may be taken up to any extent by the prolongation of the *base* on some distant

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object, that will serve to correct the position of the different persons who successively, as the separate bodies require it, will prolong the line from the points already established.

3d. If the persons who prolong a line are on horseback, the head of the horse of each standing perpendicular to the line is the object; if dismounted, their breasts will be the object, which the several leaders of divisions in columns rase successively as they arrive at them.

But when a number, say one from each company, is sent out to mark the line and distances, before the column moves up, they will take the necessary distances for their respective divisions, and cover in file, thereby obtaining a correct line, and front, remaining in that situation until the line is formed.

4th. When the line is to form in successive divisions, as from close column, from echellon, &c. the first division that arrives and is truly formed on it, may be considered as the *base*, which is prolonged by the others coming up and lining on the part already formed, an object prepared on the reverse flank of the battalion for the officers correcting the dressing; and thus battalion after battalion may form and dress as they arrive in line.

5th. The ascertaining necessary points for movements and formations of the battalion, when singly in the field, is the particular business of the adjutant, for which he should have detached persons to carry his plans into execution.

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§ 66. *Of Dressing.*

1st. When halted, a small turn of the head is necessary to facilitate the dressing. The word *dress* alone means to the hand the troops are then looking; when required to dress by another point, the addition of *right, centre,* or *left,* will be given. But whenever the word *halt-dress,* is given, it implies that the men are looking, or are to look, to the officer who is then on the flank of *appui.*

2d. All *dressings* must be made with as much alacrity as possible, and the dresser of each body, as he accomplishes the operation, will order *front,* which is intended that the eyes may be directed to the front and the body square; if the body to be dressed is large, the dresser must first place one division before he proceeds with another, beginning on the point of appui.

3d. On all occasions, without exception, in forming and dressing the line, it must be remembered that the soldiers in coming into line will direct their eyes to the general point of appui where the leading flank rests, and of course towards whatever part of the line already formed, which is nearer that point than themselves, taking their direction from them. The officer dressing must be always, when giving the command, on the flank of his division, towards which the men's eyes are to be turned, and from thence he makes his corrections of the other flank on the distant point; therefore, on all occasions, the men's lining themselves to one hand, and the officers correcting to the other, the most perfect line may be obtained. But in

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case of neglecting to prepare such points of correction, the dressing of the line will entirely depend on the divisions taking it up from each other, and from the first formed flank, which is imperfect, and scarcely capable of producing a just line.

§ 66. *Of Columns.*

1st. All columns are supposed formed from line, for the convenience of movement, and for the purpose of again extending the line. Therefore every column of march or manœuvre must be formed by a regular succession of the divisions from right to left of the line, or of such of its parts as compose the column; for be it remembered, whatever is the relative position of a body in line, such ought it to be in column; and where several columns are formed from one line, the same flanks of each must be in front, but whether rights or lefts must depend on circumstances. But columns formed on the centre of lines, should seldom be made, unless particular situations require it. Columns thus formed, are not adapted to the general movements and formations in all situations, as the others formed on the flanks are.

Formation of Columns.

2d. The great object of a close column is to form the line to the front in the quickest possible manner, to conceal numbers from the knowledge of the enemy, and to extend in whatever direction the circumstances of the moment may require, which, till the design is nearly accomplished, cannot be obvious to the opposing adversary. It is a situation for assembly more than for the march;

The design of the close Column.

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but when formed in the face of an enemy from open column under protection of artillery and cavalry, the head of the column must be at whole, half, or quarter distances from the ground they are designed to form upon, so as to avoid being enfiladed or interrupted by the attempts of the enemy.

Column of March and Manœuvre.

3d. The open column is named the column of march or *route*, when applied to common marches; in this, the attention of the officers and men is not so much kept on the stretch. It is named the column of *manœuvre*, in exercising, or when within reach of the enemy; the greatest exactness is required, and the utmost attention of officers and men is necessary, in order to its speedy formation into line at any instant, during its transition from one position to another. The chief objects of this column are, facility of movement, and the quick formation of the line to the flank, the shortest lines being taken in change of situation from one position to another. It is generally formed on the right, when it is expected the formation of the line will be required to the left flank, and *vice versa* when required to the right flank.

Front and extent of Columns.

4th. Open columns of march or manœuvre, will be generally composed of companies, subdivisions, or sections, formed from line, with either its right or left in front, and may march to the front, flanks, rear, or any intermediate direction. In either case the battalion *wheels* the quarter circle to either flank, and *halts*. The open column should just occupy the same extent of ground as when in

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line, minus the front of its leading division: for the purposes of movement with ease and facility, the divisions should not exceed 20 files, nor should they be under 5 files in front, when the formation is three deep, otherwise there will not be space to loosen the ranks, and the battalion will of course be lengthened out.

§ 67. *Of the Battalion open Columns.*

Dressing in Columns.

1st. The divisions of a column cover and dress to the proper pivot flank, viz. to the left when the right is in front, and to the right when the left is in front. The proper pivot flank is that which, when wheeled up to, preserves the divisions of the line in their natural order, and to their proper front; the other flank is called the reverse.

Distance of Ranks.

2d. The ranks in column (if not ordered to be locked up) are one pace asunder, but if the distance they are to march is considerable, they may be opened half a pace more without increasing the distances of divisions, which must always be preserved, taken from front rank to front rank; this must also be observed in open as well as close order.

Of Leading Officers.

3d. Each division of a column is conducted by a leader, whose general post is on its pivot flank in the front rank: in a column of companies, or platoons, such leader is the platoon officer. In column of subdivisions, the officer of the platoon leads the first subdivision of his company or platoon, and his lieutenant the second. In column of sections, the platoon officer leads the first sec-

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tion of his company, his covering sergeant the second, the lieutenant the third, and his covering sergeant in battalion, the fourth. When divisions file from column into new positions, their several leaders conduct them, but when marching a considerable distance, pivot officers may be permitted to be in front of their divisions, their flank posts being occupied by non-commissioned officers, who must be answerable for the preservation of distances and proper order of the division under their care.

4th. In open column of battalions, the artillery, music, &c. wheel with, and remain close up to the rear of their respective divisions: if the column is moving at half or quarter distances, and there is space on the flank that is not the pivot one, they may there march in file, but on no occasion whatever is the assembling of them to be allowed to interfere with the movements of the battalion, by lengthening out or increasing the distances betwixt battalions in column. In the column of march, they may be sent to their respective companies, instead of being collected, there to remain in the rear of each.

Artillery, Music, &c.

5th. The battalion in open column of manœuvre ought to have its divisions as much equalized as possible. The whole must be put in motion at the same instant, the time and length of step preserved equal, whether marching on level or uneven ground.

Attentions in the open Column of Manœuvre.

The tract which the leading division takes, must be exactly traced out by each succeeding

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one; and no partial alteration can be admitted: if these circumstances are strictly observed, the covering of pivots in line, the wheeling distances, and no embarrassment being allowed in the intervals of battalions, a correct line to the flank will instantly be obtained by the wheel of the quarter circle, and shifting, closing, and after-dressing avoided.

No increasing or diminishing of the column on the alignment.

6th. No increasing or diminishing the front of a column should be made after entering on an alignment, in order to form the line; if such operation is necessary, it should be performed before entering on the line of formation.

Countermarches by Files. Fig. 19—E.

7th. The countermarch of divisions by files, each on its own ground, necessarily changes the front of the column, from right to left, and *vice versa*, when the left is in front; by this movement the same ground which it has gone over, can be retraced; also new positions taken, without altering or inverting the proper front of the line. All countermarches change the pivot flanks of columns; but the countermarch by divisions successively from the front to the rear, changes the leading flank of the battalion column, yet allows it to continue its former direction of march, and is often required as a previous manœuvre to enable a battalion to take up its relative position in line.

Countermarches by divisions. Fig. 12—A. & B.

8th. When the leading division of a battalion column arrives on the alignment on which it is to form, a mounted officer marks the point where it enters; and when it arrives at the ground where

Fig. 10—A. & B.

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it is to halt and form, the commanding officer will correct the pivot files, if necessary, from that division, on the fixed distant points, before the divisions are ordered to wheel up into line.

9th. In marching on a straight alignment, the commanding officer of each division must be uncovered, the covering sergeants falling into the rear or forming on the opposite flank; the officers, now become the pivots, must be steady on the flanks of their divisions, as they give the true wheeling distances, and the covering of the pivots, in their own persons; they must not attempt to correct the march of their divisions; that duty must be left to the officers and sergeants in the rear; the covering each other on the alignment, and preserving the correct wheeling distances will occupy their whole attention. The pivot files of men must be close to, but not touch their leader on the march, in order that they may be truly covered when halted. The pivot files of either open or
Fig. 10. close column, are always conducted on the given points of march, whether the column is moving on a line on which it will form, or whether it is marching up to a point where it will change its direction; in the latter case, the leading officer will leave the object on which he has marched, or at which he wheels, close on his outward hand.

The colours cover the third files of men from the pivots, and must be ready to move up when the line is to be formed.

10th. The battalion must be halted on its ground, stand in open column, and have its piv-

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ots adjusted, if necessary, before it wheels up and forms; but where parts of it arrive in the line by filing, they will form successively as they come up. If part of a battalion should be ordered to wheel into line while the other divisions are not yet on it, the pivot men of those divisions must cover on the formed part of the line before they wheel up. Fig. 10—B.

11th. In the march of a column through a thin wood, or in ground where impediments will frequently change the direction of its head; also along the windings of heights designed to be occupied, may be most conveniently done by subdivisions or sections; the pivot files will preserve exact distances from each other; they may choose their own ground, and wind as the trees and other impediments permit, along the general direction. If the column should be required to halt and form, the line will be curved, which may be easily made straight, should circumstances require it: in this situation, pivot flank leaders must not double on the march, but the other files may, when impediments are to be passed. Fig. 8.

12th. If at any time the march on a straight line should be interrupted by pools of water, or any obstacle which is impassable, the march must be continued straight to the obstacle, and that part of it surrounded, which ought to be by deviating to the reverse flank if possible, so as to remain behind the line: allowance must be made for the breadth of the obstacle, by doubling as many divisions as will fill up the vacancy, when it can be Obstacles in the march in Alignment. Fig. 18.

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done, which is hereby occasioned in the line. The same line will be again taken up on the other side of the obstacle by the pivots, and may be continued as far as necessary: no interruptions in the line that can possibly be surmounted, should ever make the pivots deviate from the straight line, when the known intention is to form on that line.

13th. The rear divisions of a column in march must follow every turn and twist which the leading one makes, and each successively changes its direction at whatever point the leading division may have changed; but in this situation, should the column be ordered to *halt and form in line*, the pivots must remain steady where they are found at the word halt, and the divisions will wheel up into what will be a just line, although probably curved. If the march in column is again to be resumed, the divisions will wheel backwards, and the rear divisions will follow at the ordered distance, in the exact path of the leading one: the following divisions must never deviate from this rule, or endeavour of themselves to get into a straight line when the general direction is a winding one, until express orders are given for that purpose, which will seldom be the case till the head of the column is halted for the purpose of forming a straight line.

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FORMATION OF THE BATTALION.

Fig. 9.

The battalion on a WAR establishment ought to consist of ten companies, to average at least 60 privates, with their officers, &c. and on a peace establishment, of eight companies, to average 45 privates, with their officers. When the battalion exceeds 450 privates, it may be divided into two, under the direction of first and second majors, and formed into a regiment; but as the battalion exercise comprehends all that is necessary, we shall confine ourselves to that subject in this part.

Strength of the Battalion.

On a war establishment, ten companies in the battalion is,
- 1 Grenadier.
- 8 Battalion.
- 1 Light Infantry.

Each company consisting of
- 1 Captain.
- 1 Lieutenant.
- 1 Ensign.
- 3 Sergeants.
- 3 Corporals.
- 1 Drummer.
- 1 Fifer.
- 60 Privates.

When the battalion is formed there will be no interval between any of the companies, grenadier, light-infantry, or others; the whole front must appear equally strong, and each company considering itself a battalion in miniature, must always observe the same rules.

The fundamental order of the battalion being three deep, the terms, company and platoon, be hereafter considered as synonymous.

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The position of Companies in Battalion.

The companies will be drawn up from right to left, in the following manner, according to the dates of commissions of their respective commanders, viz.

Grenadiers.
1st. Captains.
3d. Captains or Colonels.
5th. Captains.
7th. Captains or Majors.
8th. Captains.
6th. Captains.
4th. Captains or Lieutenant Colonels.
2d. Captains.
Light Infantry.

Officers commanding platoons will take their stations on the right of the front rank of each, covered by sergeants in the rear rank; the other officers and sergeants will form the fourth or supernumerary rank.

Divisions.

The eight battalion companies will compose four grand divisions, eight companies or platoons, sixteen subdivisions, thirty-two sections, when sufficiently strong to be thus divided; if not, the battalion will be divided into twenty-four sections, (or as many as is found convenient) viz. each platoon into three sections, for the purposes of march and manœuvre. But when the grenadiers and light company are with the battalion, they may then, for the purposes of firing, &c. be divided into five grand divisions from right to left. Under a peace establishment, when the battalion is reduced to eight companies, including grena-

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diers and light infantry, the above rules must be observed, and no distinction made in exercise or manœuvre of flank companies, but the whole will perform and manœuvre the same as the eight companies of infantry.

The battalion companies will be numbered from the right to the left, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. The subdivisions will be numbered 1, 2, of each; the sections will be numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, of each; the files of companies will also be numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, &c. if in war; the grenadier and light companies will be numbered in the same manner separately. These several distinctions must be preserved whether faced to front or rear, through all the various situations.

The divisions of a battalion must be equalized in point of numbers, when it is formed for field movements; and when it is possible to equalize the battalions of a line, it will prove very advantageous; but from the different strength of battalions, this cannot always take place; yet the first requisite is indispensably necessary.

Distances of Ranks.

The ranks are at the distance of one pace, except the fourth rank, which must have three paces.

All the field officers and adjutant should be mounted. One officer is on the right of the front rank of each platoon, and one on the left of the battalion, all covered by their respective sergeants in the rear rank; it must be observed, that there are no coverers in the centre rank to the officers or colours.

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Fig. 9. The commander is the only officer in front of the ranks, for the purpose of exercising the battalion when single; but in line, and during the firings, he is in the rear of the colours. The lieutenant colonel is in the rear of the colours, six paces behind the rear rank. The major and adjutant are six paces in the rear of the third and sixth platoons.

The colours are between the fourth and fifth battalion companies in the front rank (the standard on the right) and each covered by a non-commissioned officer in the rear rank. A sergeant is in the front rank betwixt the colours covered by a sergeant in the third and another in the fourth rank. The duty of these three sergeants is, when the battalion moves in line, to advance and direct the march, as shall be observed hereafter; when these sergeants move out, their place in the front one will be occupied by an officer or sergeant from the fourth rank named for that purpose.

The fourth rank is at the distance of three paces when halted or marching in line; but when marching in column, it must close up to the distance of the other ranks. The principal use of this rank is, to keep the centre and rear ones close up to the front during the attack, and to prevent any break in the rear: on this very essential service, all the officers and sergeants not otherwise disposed of, should be employed.

The use of the Fourth Rank.

The drummers and fifers of the eight battalion companies, are six paces behind the third rank of

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the second and seventh companies. The drummers and fifers of the grenadier and light companies are six paces in rear of their respective companies.

The pioneers (if any) are formed two deep, three paces behind the lieutenant colonel; and the music (if any) are three paces behind the pioneers in a single rank. The drummers, fifers, pioneers, and music, are formed at loose files, but occupying no more space than is necessary.

The staff of chaplain, surgeon, quarter master, and surgeon's mate, are three paces behind the music.

When the officers of platoons move out of the front rank in parade, marching in column, wheeling, &c. their covering sergeants take their places until they are resumed again; but during the firings, and in action, the coverers fall back into the fourth rank.

Although officers generally remain at their posts with their respective platoons, yet, commanding officers may make such changes, or order such as may be necessary, upon any duty occasionally required.

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§ 68. *When the Battalion takes open Orders.*

REAR RANK TAKE OPEN ORDER.

On the command, *rear ranks take open order*, the flank men on the right of the centre, and rear ranks face to the right, taking three and five side steps, and cover as pivots; if it is necessary, they will be regulated and dressed by the

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MARCH.

adjutant or sergeant-major on the right. At the word *march*, they will face to the front, and the ranks fall back, each dressing by the right the instant it arrives on its ground.

The officers in the front rank, also the colours move out three paces; those in the rear, together with the music, pass through the intervals left open by the front rank officers, and line with them in the following order: captains in front of the second file from the right, the lieutenants in front of the second file from the left, and ensigns opposite the centre of their respective companies. The music form between the colours and the front rank, and the sergeant coverers move up to preserve intervals for their officers in the front rank.

The pioneers fall back six paces behind the centre of the rear rank, and the drummers and fifers take the same distance from the rear rank of their divisions.

The major moves to the right and the adjutant to the left of the line of officers. The staff place themselves on the right of the front rank of the grenadiers, viz. chaplain, surgeon, quarter master, mates.

The colonel and lieutenant colonel, dismounted, advance two and four paces before the colours.

The whole having arrived at their several posts, they will *halt*,

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dress to the right, and remain steady. Thus the battalion remains formed in the order it would receive a general officer.

This is the position of a battalion when in line with others, but when reviewed singly, in order to make more show, the drummers and fifers may be formed two deep on each flank; the pioneers may also be formed two deep on the right of the drummers, and the staff will form in single rank on the right of the whole.

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§ 69. *When the Battalion resumes Close Order.*

REAR RANK TAKE CLOSE ORDER. MARCH. At this command, the lieutenant colonel, officers, colours, staff, and music, face to the right.

The sergeants in the front rank face to the right. The drummers and pioners (if on the flanks) face to the centre. The music passes through the centre interval. The officers move through their respective intervals. The ranks close within one pace and halt. Each individual arrives at his place, and resumes his post at close order.

Officers commanding platoons are uniformly posted on their right when in line, but when movements are to be made in column, echellon, or file, they must shift to the proper pivots, or to the heads of files, in order to conduct them. Posts of Officers.

When the battalion wheels into column to either flank, the colours to the proper pivot, the one covering the new pivot file, the other covering Colours in Column.

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the third file from the pivot, the file of directing sergeants cover the second file between the colours. There is no occasion for a colour reserve, as the pioneers, music, &c. strengthen the centre in the attack; but in the firings, a certain number of files (say two) on each side of the colours, may be ordered to retain their fire.

Grenadier and Light Company.

When the grenadier and light company are detached from the line, they may be formed two deep, but when united with the battalion in line, they will be formed three deep, and at the same close files as the battalion.

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§ 70. *The Assembly of the Battalion.*

The companies should be inspected by their officers on their respective parades, previous to their appearing on the parade of the battalion. On their arriving there, they will stand in open column of companies with either their right or left in front, the ground will be given by whatever division arrives first; the others arrange themselves in front or rear, according to their places in the battalion. In this situation, reports will be made, divisions equalized, wheeling distances given, pivots corrected, &c. When each individual is at his proper place, the line will be formed by wheels of the quarter circle, on receiving the word from the commanding officer.

The colours will be sent for, and posted as directed in the formation of the battalion; thus the whole are ready to move in column of companies, subdivisions, or sections. On arriving at

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its ground, and being formed in the field of exercise, it will proceed to the particular movements, &c. as contained in the following articles, which may be arranged and classed as circumstances will admit, corresponding with the views of commanding officers, the modes of execution being fully detailed hereafter under their proper heads.

EXERCISE OF THE BATTALION.

In Open Column.

Fig. 3. 1st. From line, the companies, or other divisions, will wheel backwards into open column on their pivots, sec. 77.

Fig. 10. 2d. March and prolong the line to a flank, sec. 79.

Fig. 20, 21. 3d. The front, centre, or rear division of the column, will be placed in a new given direction, and the rest will take up their ground in echellon, or by file marching, sec. 84, 85, 86.

Fig. 23. 4th. The position of the column will be changed to either flank by the divisions facing, filing into a new given direction, and halting with their pivot flanks on it, sec. 87.

5th. The whole column will close at once, both to right and left, in the side or closing step, sec. 11.

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Fig. 14. 6th. The column will close to half, quarter, or close column, and again take open distances from front, centre, or rear division, sec. 118.

Fig. 19—E. 7th. The divisions will countermarch singly by files, sec. 100.

Fig. 12. 8th. The flanks of the column will be changed, by the rear division becoming the front one, by a countermarch of the whole from the rear, sec. 101, 102.

Fig. 5, 8, A. 9th. The column will increase and diminish its front on the march, and occasionally wheel into line, to shew that the distances are preserved, sec. 72, 73.

10. The divisions of the column will face to either flank, march in the lock step, halt, and again front into column, sec. 87.

11th. The column will form from half or quarter distance, by obliquing into line, filing into line, or divisions wheeling successively into line, and taking open distances.

Fig. 34. 12th. The column will form the line, when the whole is on the alignment, by wheeling. By halting the head divisions on the line, filing the rear ones into it, and then wheeling up the whole. By the head divisions halting on the line, the rear ones wheeling into the

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echellon, and marching up into the echellon, and marching up into line, sec. 82, 89, 90.

The Changes of Position in the Line.

13th. The battalion will advance in line and halt, sec. 128.

14th. The battalion will retire in line, halt and front, sec. 130.

15th. The battalion will take any ordered number of side steps (without opening out) to a flank, sec. 11.

16th. The battalion will march in file at the lock step to a flank, halt and front, sec. 17.

Fig. 22. 17th. The battalion when halted, will be dressed by the platoon officers advancing, dressing, and afterwards moving up the men, sec. 129.

Fig. 20, 21, 31, 32. 18th. The battalion will change position on a central or flank company, by filing, or by the echellon march of companies, sec. 84, 124.

Fig. 33, 35. 19th. The battalion will advance and retire in echellons of companies. Form the line on any named one. Throw forwards or backwards any number of companies, and wheel them into an oblique line.

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Fig. 19. 20th. The battalion will countermarch by files from one flank to the other; also from and upon the centre, sec. 97, 98, 99.

Fig. 29. 21st. The battalion will march off the ground by divisions from a flank; also countermarch before or behind, each division wheeling and following in succession, sec. 96.

Fig. 37. 22d. The alternate companies will form two lines, and march to front and rear, preserving intervals, sec. 137.

Fig. 23. 23d. The battalion will pass in file through a second line, or wood, from a flank of each company, to front and rear, sec. 87.

Fig. 13, 15, 16, 17. 24th. The battalion will pass defiles to the front and to the rear, from each flank, and from the centre, sec. 93, 94.

Fig. 38. 25th. The battalion will form the square or oblong, halted, and on the march, in the different methods laid down; and finally, from the square, march off in double column through a defile as directed, sec. 138.

Formations of the Close Column.

Fig. 25, 26, 27, 28. 26th. The close column will form on any named company from line, either in front or rear, sec. 103, 104.

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Fig. 14. 27th. The close column will open out to whole, half, or quarter distances, and again close upon any named division, sec. 118.

Fig. 29. 28th. The close column of grand divisions, or two companies in front, will be formed from the column of one company in front, sec. 111.

29th. The close column will change its direction to a flank, sec. 107.

Fig. 26, 27, 30. 30th. The line will be formed from the column halted on a front, rear, or central division. And from the column moving in file to a flank on a front or rear division. Also by an oblique deployment of its divisions, sec. 108, 109, 110, 116, 117.

The above comprehends almost all the essential movements of a battalion that can be required of it, either when single or united with others in line. They may be combined according to the views of the commander, that may arise from different situations, adding or altering the connecting circumstances, as capacious or narrow ground may admit; but no variation ought to take place in the mode of execution, as particularly detailed in the sections referred to.

The various exercises of the firelock, by companies and battalion, may be applied and intermixed with the above movements; especially the firings agreeably to the rules laid down in the

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platoon exercise, as the commander shall direct. A battalion should never assemble nor be dismissed without performing some part of the general movements; also, the various exercises of the musket: it is by these means that the steadiness and instruction of every individual is attained.

The common idea that a battalion or regiment is an independent body, and that its commander acts the part of a general on most occasions, is very fallacious. It ought always to be considered as a member of a line, and all its movements as relative and dependent upon others; therefore, every line of march and formation should be upon certain given points, whether it is exercised singly or in line with others, such as he who has the command, shall point out for direction.

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§ 71. *Diminishing and Increasing the Front of a Column of March.*

In consequence of obstructions in the route, the column will have to diminish its front, and again to increase it when the obstacle is passed: this movement is one of the most important, and requires to be performed with great accuracy and attention, so as not to lengthen out in the least.

The diminution and increase of the front of a battalion, may be performed either halted or in motion; if when halted, the doubling and forming up will generally be done by the battalion at once; if in motion, each successive division may perform the operation when it arrives at the point

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where the leading one of the column performed it, or by the whole divisions of the battalion at the same moment. In either case, the commander must give a general caution first, and the officers of platoons give the words for execution to the subdivisions or sections, to double, or move up to their regulating ones, which always preserve their original distances from each other, and never alter their pace at which the column was moving, but proceed as if entirely unconnected with the operation performing by the others.

When the column of companies is to be reduced to subdivisions or sections, it will always be done by doubling from the pivot flank behind the reverse flank of subdivision or section, so that the battalion may remain ready to wheel into line at any moment; therefore, when the right is in front, the doubling will be behind the right, and behind the left when the left is in front. In increasing, those that doubled will move up by a quick incline to their leading ones. The diminishing or increasing the front of a column in march has been objected to by doubling the pivot division on the reverse flank, as this is said to derange the exactness of the pivots; and if so, it can be but in a small degree, which will be easily regained on forming up, therefore is of no consequence, as the movement is chiefly applicable to the march in route, not to a column of manœuvre, when it has entered on the line on which it is to form.

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§ 72. *When a Battalion Column of Companies diminishes its front in March, either the whole Battalion at once, or Companies successively.*

When the leading division arrives within twelve or fifteen yards of the point where it will diminish, the commander will give a loud *caution* that the doubling is to be made at once, or by divisions successively.

Fig. 4. *If at once,* on the general *caution* from the commander, each platoon officer proceeds as directed, (sec. 40.) without waiting for each other.

Fig. 4. *If successively,* the leader of the head platoon, on receiving the *caution,* proceeds as directed, (sec. 40.) and each observes the same rules when it arrives on the spot where the first doubled.

When the front of the column requires to be doubled, and the obstacle presents itself before the right, that part must incline after the doubling is made, in order to pass it; but timely notice should be given, to bring up, if possible, by regular inclining that part which is not to double, square to the defile through which it is to pass, before the doubling begins. And when any immediate diminution of front is to follow an alteration in the direction of march, it should be made with a gradual sweep, so as to preserve the head of the column in its new perpendicular direction, when at least 15 or 20 paces from the point of breaking off.

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§ 73. *When the Battalion Column of Subdivisions or Sections in March, forms Columns of Companies.*

A loud *caution* will be given by the commander, that column of companies will be formed at once, or successively.

Fig. 8, A. *If at once.* On receiving the general *caution* from the commander, each platoon officer proceeds as directed, (sec. 40) without waiting for each other.

Fig. 4, D. *If successively.* Each inclines when it arrives on the ground where the preceding one began to form, as directed sec. 40.

Always when divisions double, or form up in column, ranks should be closed, arms carried, and the transition from one position to another made as quick as possible; and the instant the column takes its new order, the pivot flank leaders will place themselves on the proper pivots.

The general practice of each division of the column breaking off successively at the point of difficulty, and again forming up as soon as it is passed, is most likely to lengthen out, an evil which is to be avoided; therefore the reduction of the front at once, of the whole battalion, is certainly the most eligible; and upon the same principle, the forming up or increasing the front, by the whole battalion together, is to be preferred, when the rear of it has cleared the difficulty.

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§ 74. *When the Battalion Column of Companies is halted, and is required to diminish its Front.*

The *caution* will be given to form column of subdivisions or sections, on which the officers of the named divisions of column will fall back, to mark the pivot flanks of the doubling divisions.

Inwards Face, Quick, March.

Fig. 4, A.

Halt, Front, Dress.

The leaders of each division will immediately give the word to the doubling flank, *inwards face, quick march.* On disengaging their heads, they will step off to the rear, justly dividing the distances that existed between companies; the flank leaders will then instantly place themselves on the pivots, and give the words, *halt, front, dress.*

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§ 75. *When the Battalion Column of Subdivisions or Sections is halted, and required to increase its Front.*

The chief in command will give the caution to form companies, on which,

Fig. 8, A. *To the Left Oblique, Quick March, Forwards, Halt, Dress.*

The leader of each company instantly orders the bodies to move up, *to the left oblique, quick march, forwards, halt, dress;* and when joined to the standing division, the leader then places himself on the proper pivot of his platoon or company.

But should a battalion retire with the rear rank leading the divisions in column, there will be no

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change except the inversion of front; the divisions will double as already prescribed, in order to preserve the subdivisions or sections in their proper order for forming; and when the situation allows, the column will again increase its front.

When the battalion column has to pass a bridge or short defile that will nearly admit the front, and there is a certainty of being soon able to resume the front which it will be obliged to diminish, then the reverse flank of the leading division will enter the defile, a certain number of files on the pivot flank will receive the command, *inwards face*, and follow close in the rear; the officer who is the proper pivot takes one pace in front, there preserving wheeling distance. On quitting the defile, the doubling files will form up at a lengthened step, but the rate at which the column is marching, must not be altered either in doubling or forming up at no time, and in this manner, divisions succeed divisions, without extending to any improper length. Fig. 5.

But when a close column, or one at quarter distance, is to pass a defile, it must stand on such a front as will require no further reduction before it enters, and if such operation be necessary, a halt must be made on approaching the defile, and there performed as will enable it to enter on such a front as can be maintained in passing. When the defile is passed, the commander will make such arrangement for the advance of the column as he thinks proper, or circumstances admit. Fig. 13, A.

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The Battalion wheels from Line into Open Column.—Change direction of the March.—Wheel and enter on an Alignment.—March.—Halt.—And wheel up into Line.

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§ 76. *When the Battalion is halted in Line, and wheels forwards by Companies into Open Column, the Right in Front.*

Fig. 3. E.

COMPANIES RIGHT WHEEL, QUICK MARCH. HALT, DRESS.

When the *caution*, companies right wheel, is given, the officers step out one pace, and the same rules will be observed by companies as practised by subdivisions or sections, as described sec. 32. Respect must also be paid to the observations made on battalion open columns, sec. 67.

When the Battalion wheels forwards by Companies into Open Column, the Left in Front.—The same operation takes place as in wheeling to the right, with these variations, that the left hand men of the companies face to the left, and the left covering sergeant marks the ground for the wheel of the leading company. But wheels thus made, will derange the pivots, from the inequality of divisions, different sizes of men, &c. nevertheless, they are to remain in this situation, and lay it down as an invariable rule that they are not to shift in order to cover, but by the express command of the chief of battalion, who must correct the pivots, if he intends to pursue a straight line to form on. If the continuation of the march is the object, after they are put in motion, he may

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allow the pivots to get gradually into the direction. The only way to remedy the above inconvenience is, that on all occasions, the wheeling from line into open column should be made *backwards* instead of *forwards*.

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§ 77. *When the Battalion is halted in Line, and is to wheel backwards into Open Column, the Right in Front.*

COMPANIES ON THE LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL.

At the *caution*, companies on the left backwards wheel, the officers step out, and the whole observe the rules given in sec. 33. The man on the left of the front rank of each division faces to the right and covers; he is now become the proper pivot for his division to wheel upon. The covering sergeant of the right division runs back and places himself where the moving flank will rest, when the wheel is performed, in order to give the front of the column a square direction with the pivots. On the word, *quick march*, the other covering sergeants fall back into the fourth rank, and the whole divisions move together: each officer gives the word, *halt dress* to his division, and instantly takes post on the pivot preserving it in his own person.

QUICK MARCH.

HALT, DRESS.

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When the Battalion is halted in Line, and is to wheel backwards into Open Column, the Left in Front.

COMPANIES ON THE RIGHT, BACKWARDS WHEEL, QUICK MARCH. *Halt, Dress.*

The same operations take place as when the right is in front, except the right hand men of companies who are the facers, and the left sergeant marks the ground for the moving flank of the leading company.

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§ 78. *When the Battalion is at once to break into Column of Subdivisions or Sections.*

QUICK MARCH. *Halt, Dress,*

The general CAUTION, being given, the pivot men of each face, and their divisions wheel into column.—On the words *halt, dress,* the leaders will place themselves on the pivots, if in subdivisions; the platoon officer commands the leading one and his lieutenant the second.—If in sections the platoon officer the first; his covering sergeant the second; the lieutenant the third, and his covering sergeant the fourth, who are each answerable for the preservation of pivots, § 32, 33.

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§ 79. *When the Open Column is put in motion in the prolongation of the Line.*

When the battalion wheels into open column in order to prolong the line on which it was formed, and no previous arrangement made for the direc-

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tion of the march on a true line, the covering sergeant of the leading company will be ordered out 20 to 25 paces in front and place himself in the line of the pivots, and the leading officer will thereby take up the line of march by him; this will enable him to ascertain the true direction in which he is to move.

MARCH. The battalion wheels into open column with the pivot flanks of its divisions on the line; the advanced points being ascertained, it receives the word *march*, from its commanding officer, on which the whole moves forwards.

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§ 80. *When the Open Column advances with its Right in Front, wheels to the Right, on a halted Pivot, into a new Alignment and marches in it.*

Fig. 10, A. When the alignment is determined by given objects, and the point of entry marked, the leading officer will march his left flank on that point until he arrives at a distance equal to the front of his company from it, he then orders, *right wheel*, and the wheel will be so made that at the conclusion of it, he will be standing on the new alignment on the flank of his company at the word *halt dress:* as soon as the succeeding company has arrived at the wheeling point, he gives the word *march*, and moves on without looking behind, or allowing any thing to take off his attention from the main object

Right Wheel.

Halt Dress.

March.

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This rule must be observed by all the officers following; at the same time they must maintain their exact distances, and should any of them deviate to either hand, those that succeed should rectify the fault, preserving the line.

In order to insure the march correct, and the halt of the pivots on the alignment, the commander of the column may go forward to an advanced point, and being truly placed on the line, may look back to the point of wheeling or entry into the alignment, or to any other fixed object in it; he can then see if the rear flank of the column keep the true line, or deviate from it, and may correct it by signal, or by sending back the adjutant to his station, whose directions are to be immediately obeyed.

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§ 81. *When the Open Column advances with its Right in Front, wheels to the Left on a fixed point into a new Alignment and marches in it.*

Left-Wheel. Halt Dress, March. — The leading company march up to the new direction, and when the officer arrives at the point, commands *left wheel*, instead of beginning at the distance of a company, (as in the preceding section) and continues the march as before directed.

With respect to a battalion broken from the left, the only differences are, that the flanks are changed, and that the left company performs what was before done by the right; also that the right flanks of divisions are on the alignment instead of the left.

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The open column changing direction on the march on a moveable pivot, being fully described in sec. 20, 36, and applied to large as well as small bodies, need not be repeated here.

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§ 82. *When the Open Column is halted on the ground on which it is to form, wheels up into Line, and dresses.*

HALT. Whenever the first or last division arrives at the given point in the alignment, the commander of the battalion gives the word *halt*; the foot off the ground finishes its pace, after which, no one is permitted to move, not even half a pace; if that is allowed to one company while another is obliged to stand fast, from thence to the flank of the line would have to shift; hence much confusion must arise: the chief cause of a disorder of this kind, proceeds from a deficiency of officers in the great principles of their duty, in preserving proper distances, and covering pivots.

WHEEL UP INTO LINE, QUICK MARCH. The *caution* will be given, wheel up into line, on which the pivot men of the front ranks face into the new line, and the wheeling will be performed agreeable to the directions, sec. 35. The officers during the wheel, turn round to face the men, and incline towards the pivot of the preceding company; when each perceives his wheeling man on the step which brings him up in

HALT, DRESS. line, he orders, *halt dress*. This

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being quickly done, he instantly takes his post on the right of his company.

Thus dressing is made and eyes turned to the point where the head of the column halted, vide sec. 10. If any future correction of the line is made, it will be by a field officer from the fixed point where the head division of the column rested.

When the battalion is formed in line, and there appears false openings betwixt the divisions, they may be remedied by the closing step, also crowding of files; but both cases require orders from the commanding officer, before attempted, sec. 11.

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§ 83. *When the Battalion Open Column, composed of Subdivisions or Sections, is to wheel into Line.*

WHEEL UP INTO LINE. QUICK MARCH. HALT DRESS.

At the word, *wheel up into line*, the company officer only moves into the front; the pivot leaders of the other subdivisions or sections go to the place they would occupy, if the column was a column of companies; the pivot men of each subdivision or section faces. At the word *march*, the whole wheel; each company officer gives the word *halt dress*, to the whole of his company.

The line of march of the column will always be about a pace before the line on which the troops will form, for this reason, that the one is the di-

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rection preserved by the officers, who during the march in column are the directing pivots; the other being that on which the flank men halt; and wheels of divisions are made up into line, the flank files are therefore the pivots of divisions in wheeling, although the officers are the pivots on the march.

The commander must be careful that he is in the line when he dresses his battalion, or corrects the flanks of his divisions; in order to effect this, he must give his horse such a direction as the divisions should touch in marching.

THE BATTALION CHANGES POSITION FROM LINE, BY MOVEMENTS OF THE OPEN COLUMN.

These movements are of previous disposition from one distant situation to another, and the least liable to the interruption of an enemy. If circumstances allow, original or new positions are soonest and easiest taken up.

The changes of position are either made on a *fixed* point within the battalion, or on a *distant* point without it.

ON A FIXED POINT.

§ 84. *When the Battalion is to change Position to the Front on the right halted Company, by throwing forwards the Left, by filing of Companies.*

Fig 21, B. The right flank being the fixed point on which the change is to be made, and in the intersection of both lines, the commander imme-

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diately places another point 30 or 40 paces beyond that flank, which determines the direction of the new line. The right platoon will be wheeled forwards to the right in that direction, and will then be immediately wheeled backwards on the left, so as to stand with its pivot perpendicular to the new direction, and on which its officer is posted.

BY COMPANIES ON THE LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL. LEFT FACE. QUICK MARCH.

The other divisions of battalion are then wheeled backwards on the left, and stand in open column. On the word *left face*, the whole, except the fixed platoon, face, and at the word quick march, the respective officers conduct their files to the points in the new line, where the pivot flanks of their platoons will rest. In order to ascertain these points, the covering sergeant of each platoon, will run up successively as it approaches within 20 or 30 paces of the new line, and place himself upon it, at the proper distance of his platoon, facing to the head of the column, and covering exactly those that have taken their places. The first points given serve for the first sergeant, and become additional points for the others to arrange themselves by.

The sergeants being thus placed on the spot which the officers are to occupy, each officer comes up, placing himself immediately before the sergeant; instantly giving the

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Halt, Front, Dress. words, *halt, front, dress,* closing his flank front rank man to his sergeant, and his division placed perpendicular to the new line. The officer then takes the place of his sergeant; the whole being steady, and pivots covered, the command will be given, *wheel up and form line,* the performance of which will give a perfect line.

WHEEL UP AND FORM LINE.

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§85. *When the Battalion is to change Position to the Rear, on the right halted Platoon, by throwing back the Left, by filing of Companies.*

Fig. 21, C. When the direction of the line is truly ascertained in the manner described in the foregoing section, the right platoon will be wheeled backwards on its right into the new line, and afterwards on its left or pivot flank till it stands perpendicular to the new line; the rest of the battalion will break into open column on the left backwards. The platoons will face to the right, and the officers prepare themselves to lead.

ON THE LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL.

RIGHT FACE.

QUICK MARCH. On the word *march,* the whole lead to the rear, and the covering sergeants, as before, will take the pivots on the new line. The officer will stop directly before him, and conduct his platoon so as to pass close behind him, till the rear file has passed him one pace, and then *halt front-dress* his platoon to the left, in a perpendicular direction to

Halt, Front, Dress.

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WHEEL UP AND FORM LINE. the new line; he will himself take the place of the sergeant, and remain ready to wheel into line.

But should it be required to change position to the left, by throwing the whole right either forwards or backwards, the right becomes the pivot flanks, and the general circumstances of facing filing and placing sergeants on the new pivots still take place; the substitution of right for left and *vice versa*, must be given in the command to effect the intended change.

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§ 86. *When the Battation is to change Position on a central halted Company, throwing forwards the Right and backwards the Left, by filing Companies.*

Fig. 20, B. ON THE RIGHT AND LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL. RIGHT FACE. One flank of the central company must be considered the point of intersection; two other distant points, one on each flank of the battalion will determine the direction of the new line.—The central company is first wheeled into it, and then wheeled back till it stands perpendicular to it, and the covering sergeants from each of the other companies run out to mark the new pivots, the other companies wheel backwards so as all to stand faced to the given one. The whole except the central company face to the right, viz. those that are to move to right, to the right; and those that are to move to the rear, to the rear.

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QUICK MARCH.

Halt, Front, Dress.

WHEEL UP AND FORM LINE.

On the command, *quick march*, they move on to the new pivots, and there arrange themselves in two columns, before and behind the placed company, towards which the whole face. The one in front of the given company, must take care to form with a distance equal to its own front and that of the placed one. All the others will be at their just wheeling distances in column: the line will then be wheeled up to the proper front. But if the right is to be thrown back and the left forwards, the only alteration from the above is, that the companies face to the left, and file from their left instead of their right.

ON A DISTANT POINT.

§ 87. *When the Battalion changes to a distant Position in Front or Rear, by the filing of all its Companies, and the Position is either parallel or oblique to the one it quits.*

Fig. 22, 23.

BY COMPANIES ON THE BACKWARDS WHEEL, QUICK MARCH.

TO THE —— FACE.

If parallel, the battalion standing in open column, will be ordered to *face*. The leader of the second company will have a direction given him, which crosses the new line at the point, (a) and where the flank of his company will rest. The whole are then put in motion, and the commander of the battalion is with the right company, (b) by his making an insensible advance, or by keeping back, the heads of the

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QUICK, MARCH.

other files will be regulated during the march, as they endeavor to keep themselves as nearly as possible in a prolonged line, with the heads of the two leading companies, but at all events, are not to be before them: when those two companies halt their pivots in the line, the others will arrive successively without hurry, and stand in open column at wheeling distances. They will then be commanded to *wheel up and form line*, which is previously determined by the sergeants running out when within 30 or 40 paces, and lining themselves on two or more given objects, which will be the pivot flanks of their companies.

Halt, Front, Dress.

WHEEL UP AND FORM LINE.

If oblique, the battalion will break into open column of companies to which ever hand the new position outflanks the old one; for to that hand the whole will have to incline during the march; but if it does not evidently outflank, then the battalion will break to the hand next the point of intersection of the two lines, because that hand is nearest to, and will generally be the first to enter any part of the new position.

Fig. 34, B.

Thus the changes of position are made in an accurate and expeditious manner, by one or more battalions, but a very extensive line, in the face of an enemy, must not be risked by being too much broken and thrown into so many files; nor should

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it in open ground, without the strictest attention to distances, attempt such an operation, especially if there is any probability of the enemy interrupting its completion. This mode may be applied in many situations among trees, or where the ground is much impeded by obstacles which prevent a division marching on a larger front.

As the lines of march in filing will very seldom be perpendicular to the new lines, the leaders of divisions must take particular care that the last 15 or 20 paces, in approaching their sergeants, be made in a perpendicular direction to the new line, in order that their divisions may halt and front justly, without any necessity of shifting.

During the march from one position to another, the wheeling distances should be as much preserved as possible; but at all events, care must be taken that they are correct, just before entering the new line.

When the divisions in this manner gain a new position by filing, it must always be from the flank which is nearest to that position, and place their pivot flanks upon it. If the pivot happens to be the leading flank, the conducting officer *halts* and *fronts* his division, when he arrives at the new position marked by his sergeant. But if the pivot is the following flank, the officer who leads, stops when he arrives at the new position marked by the sergeant, and makes his division pass behind and go beyond the sergeant till his pivot man arrives on it, he will then *halt*, *front*, *dress* his division; therefore the conducting officers must

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recollect that the pivot flanks will always halt in the new position, and that on them the divisions wheel up into line.

Generally, when the divisions file to the front the pivot flanks lead; and when they file to the rear, the pivots follow, and of course arrive last in the line.

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§ 88. *When the Battalion Open Column changes Position, by marching up to where its Rear is to remain, and entering the Line by wheeling divisions.*

Fig. 34, C.

A battalion open column, on entering a new position, where its rear is to rest, if the wheels are made to the pivot hand, will receive the word *halt*, just when the rear division has compleated its wheel into the new direction. But, if the wheels are made to the reverse hand, it will receive the word *halt*, when the last division but one has completed its wheel, and the last division files and places its pivot flank at the given point. The line being determined by a marked point of entry, two advanced points must be given, the battalion then enters by wheels, and when its last division is at its point, the word halt is given, and pivots being corrected, the whole is ready to wheel into line.

Wheel, Halt, Dress, March.

HALT.

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§ 89. *When the Battalion Open Column is marching up and entering the new Line, where a central division is to be placed, and forms the Line.*

This circumstance may often happen, that the head of the battalion column must by wheeling, enter the line on the ground where the centre division will form. On its arrival, the rear divisions must be stopped in the old direction by the cessation of movement in the front, it will then be necessary instantly to bring those divisions into the alignment, by filing, that the battalion may be justly formed.

The leading division of the battalion having *wheeled* into the alignment, followed by the others, and arrived at the point where it will form, the word *halt* will be given, and the column stops. The leading division, and such as have already arrived at their proper points, remain so. Such divisions as are still in the old direction, will be ordered to *face* to the flank which conducts to their place in the new line. At the word *quick march*, the sergeants mark their points, and the divisions move and halt with these pivots on the line, ready to wheel up and form.

—— *Wheel, Halt, Dress, March.*

FACE.

QUICK MARCH.

Halt, Front, Dress.

By this movement, both the operations of the battalion entering a line where its front is to rest, and where its rear is to rest, may also be performed.

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§ 90. *When the Battalion changes Position, by breaking into Open Column, and marching up in Column to where its head remains placed in the new Position, and which its rear divisions enter by the echellon march.*

Fig. 24.

HALT. The column will advance to the spot where the leading division will be placed, and there receive the word *halt*. If it is necessary, the leading division will be accurately wheeled into the new line; the other divisions will wheel back the necessary number of paces, so as to be placed perpendicular to their points in the new line; they will

MARCH. move together at the word *march*, and successively form up to the leading division, by the echellon movement, sec. 45.

When the column halts perpendicular to the new line, its divisions will wheel back one eighth of the circle, or a half wheel. If the column halts oblique to the new line, the divisions will wheel proportionally, so as to be placed perpendicular to their stations in the new line.

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§ 91. *When the Battalion changes Position by breaking into open Column.—Marching to the new Position where its head is to rest, and to which its Rear forms, by successively passing each other and wheeling up into Line.*

When the column has arrived at the point where its head is to rest in either an oblique or perpendicular direction, its leading division

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Wheel up, Halt Dress. will wheel into the line and halt, each of the other divisions will march on square behind the first formed one, at which point its leading officer will, if necessary, shift to its inward flank, and each as it comes opposite its ground will successively wheel up and dress with the part of the line already formed.

This mode of forming may be used when the direction of its march is nearly in the prolongation of the new line; also when a battalion arrives on the flank of a line already formed, in order to lengthen it out. Thus a battalion does not stand in open column on the new line, but wheels up by successive divisions, and forms in full front on the given objects.

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§ 92. *When the Battalion changes Position by breaking into Open Column. Marching up to the Point where its head is to rest in a perpendicular direction to the new Line, and forming in the new Position, by the eventail movement.*

TO THE —— OBLIQUE. *Forwards, Half Step.* HALT. When the leading division is at least the length of the battalion behind its point in the new line, it will shorten its step one half on receiving orders to *oblique* from column, which they do till opposite their respective places, then each moves *forwards* in succession to the leading platoon and to each other, take up the half step, enter the line in front, and the whole will *halt.*

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This movement may be applied to one battalion, but if attempted by a more considerable body, there may be some difficulty in the just execution. It gives a gradual increase of front during a progressive movement, and is performed on the march, which must be begun at a distance behind the line at least equal to the extent of the body when formed to front. It can be performed with exactness on a front division only, not on a central one; as soon as the colours come up, they become the leading point of the battalion.

THE PASSAGE OF A BRIDGE OR SHORT DEFILE FROM LINE.

§ 93. *When a Battalion formed in Line may have to pass a short Defile or Bridge in its Front.*

Fig. 13, B. *If before a flank*, it will wheel from that flank into column, and pass on such front as will fill the defile; the column may be close or open, as circumstances shall require after passing, which may be either to prolong any given direction, or to deploy into line.

Fig. 15. *But if before the centre*, the two centre divisions stand fast; all the rest break inwards, and the whole will march forwards in double column, and, if necessary, divisions will double or break off files. When passed, the centre divisions stand fast, the others wheel to the right and left, march to the flanks, and *wheel* up into line in regular succession. Or the battalion may proceed in double column until the head arrives at the point where the line is to be formed.

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Should the defile allow only six to pass in front, the head of the double column when it arrives, its two divisions having two paces between them, will file from their inward flank to the front; then pass, and move up into column as before, every other division following their example.

The battalion may also form close column on the division which is opposite the defile of any given front, pass in that form, and extend as directed after passing. But if a positive position is not to be immediately occupied after passing, the march of the column from one flank is preferable, because from that order every situation can be more easily taken up, whereas many inconveniences attend all central columns, which might be enumerated if necessary. Fig. 13, A.

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§ 94. *When a Battalion formed in Line may have to pass a Bridge or short Defile in its Rear.*

If in the rear of a flank, it will march off from the other flank behind the rear in column of such divisions as the defile will admit, the front rank leading; the divisions will wheel behind the standing flank, pass, and again prolong any given direction. Fig. 16.

If in the rear of the centre, it will march off from each flank as before, in such divisions as will fill the defile, the leading ones when at proper distance will wheel inwards, pass in double column, and if ordered, the divisions will successively wheel outwards, and take up the new line parallel to the one it quitted. But if the defile will not ad- Fig. 17.

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mit more than six men in front to pass; the double column, when it arrives at the entrance will file from its flanks as directed in the preceding section, pass, move up into column, and extend into line, or proceed in any given direction; after passing, subdivisions or companies, will form up, and the proper leading wing will march on as directed, the other will follow it by countermarching its divisions in succession from its rear; thus the battalion will be again in its proper order, prepared for any evolution necessary.

The battalion may also form close column in front equal to the width of the defile on the nearest division to it, and face either way; it may then pass, and afterwards proceed as circumstances require.

The rules given for doubling divisions, or diminishing the front of a column, and again increasing the front—also passing obstacles by doubling files, being particularly applicable to passing defiles, they ought to be perfectly understood and strictly adhered to.

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§ 95. *When the divisions of a Column march off successively by wheeling from a Flank of a Battalion in Line, and its direction is towards the other Flank.*

Should the movement be ordered close along the front, the leading division wheels up and marches along the line; each division wheels up successively behind it, so as to follow in column, and at proper distances.

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But should the movement be ordered close along the rear, the leading division will have to wheel three fourths of the circle, and the others successively half of the circle, so as to have the remaining quarter to wheel, when the preceding division arrives at its pivot. If the new direction is to make a small angle with the new line, then each division, after wheeling its half circle, must advance in due time to that line, before it makes its remaining part of the wheel, which places it in column.

Every thing intended by the above movement may be effected by the successive filing of divisions, by which much wheeling will be avoided, and each division can with greater quickness, and no less accuracy, occupy its place in column in the following manner: when the march is along the front, the divisions face towards the moving flank and disengage their heads to the front, but those made along the rear, face towards the standing flank, and disengage their heads to the rear.

The leading division will march out its own length perpendicular to the line, *halt, front, march.* The division next it will *face*, disengage, and when the leading division arrives, the other will march quick in file, *halt, front, march.* Thus divisions follow each other, timing their operations, and preserving true distances.

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§ 96. *A Battalion in narrow ground may be obliged to march in File, to form Open Column, from its leading Flank, either before or behind that Flank, before or behind its other Flank, or before or behind any central part of the Line.*

Fig. 19, A. 1st. *If before the right flank,* the right division will move on, the rest of the battalion will *face* to the right, and march in file to the spot where the right division stood, there successively *front* and follow the leading one.

Fig. 19, B. 2d. *If behind the right flank,* the whole *face* to the right, and *march;* the right division instantly countermarches to the rear, *fronts,* and moves forwards; every division follows in the same manner till the whole is in column.

3d. *If before the centre or left flank,* the battalion makes a successive countermarch from the right flank towards the left till the right arrives on the point, where it again countermarches to its right and advances in column, and is thus followed by a certain part of the battalion. The part of the battalion beyond the point of advancing, *faces* inwards, and makes a progressive march in file, *fronts,* and follows by divisions.

4th. *If behind the centre or left flank,* the right wing of the battalion countermarches from the right by files along the rear successively, the left wing makes a progressive march by files to the central point, there countermarches and moves on in column. When the left is to be in front,

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the same operations performed by the right inversely take place.

COUNTERMARCH BY FILES.

The countermarch by files, may be made either before or behind the body. When made before it, the front rank men will be the pivots on which the files will wheel. If made behind it, the rear rank men will be the pivots &c. too much care cannot be taken to prevent the files lengthening out, that the wheels of the files are made close and quick, and that the wheeling man take an extended step; also, that unity of step which is so indispensably necessary.

The countermarch by files, is either *successive* or *progressive*. When the body is halted and each file wheeling on its own ground, as it comes to its turn, it is *successive*. When the body is in motion, and each file wheeling at the point where the leading file wheeled, it is *progressive*. In the former the body must shift its ground to a flank, in the latter the operation is performed on its original ground, exchanging the flanks and fronts. Fig. 19, C. D.

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§ 97. *Countermarch of the Battalion by Files, from both Flanks, on its Centre.*

THE BATTALION WILL COUNTERMARCH BY WINGS. OUTWARDS, FACE.

When the caution is given that *the battalion will countermarch by wings; outwards face, march,* the wings face from the colours, which stand fast; a sergeant will remain at the point of each wing to mark the ground. On the word

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MARCH. *march*, the right wing files successively close behind the rear, and the left wing close before the front, till each arrives at the point the other left; then receive the word *halt*, when the front rank of wings will quickly cover on the colours, which serve as a pivot for the battalion to turn on; *front* looking to and dressing by the colours.

HALT, COVER, FRONT.

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§ 98. *Countermarch of the Battalion by Files, from, and on its Centre.*

CAUTION. THE BATTALION WILL COUNTERMARCH FROM AND ON ITS CENTRE BY FILES. WINGS INWARDS FACE. BY WINGS THREE SIDE STEPS TO THE RIGHT, GO. MARCH. *Halt, Front.*

At the *caution, the battalion will countermarch from, and on its centre, by wings inwards face*, the whole face except the colours which stand fast, and a sergeant remains to mark each flank, then the whole are ordered three side steps to the right, *go*, in order to disengage.—At the word *march*, the whole move forwards and each file wheels into the true line when it arrives at its place beyond the colours; and when each division is in the line from the colours to the flank sergeant, its officer fronts it.—When the whole is formed, the colours countermarch, and both wings look to them till otherwise ordered. Thus wings and front are changed.

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§ 99. *Countermarch of the Battalion on its Centre by Companies or Subdivisions.*

This method is preferable to the foregoing for changing the wings of

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a battalion, because it is quicker done without the risk of lengthening out.—If at any time one flank of a battalion is required to occupy the spot where the other stood, there is no shorter manner of doing it than by prolonging the new line.—But if the flanks are to exchange places with each other, by the countermarch on the centre, or on a flank, it is necessary the various methods should be shewn.

CAUTION. —— WING, RIGHT ABOUT FACE. SUBDIVISIONS INWARDS WHEEL, MARCH. *Halt, Dress.* MARCH. *Wheel, Halt Front, Dress.*

On the usual *caution* being given, one of the wings *faces* to the right about, then both wings wheel inwards by companies or subdivisions, and march along the rear and front of the first division formed; wheel up successively into their respective places, and *halt, front, dress;* when they come to the ground, the officer of each division must be careful to be at his place, and to the proper front, when he gives the word *halt, front, dress,* to his division.

COUNTERMARCH IN COLUMN.

§ 100. *When the Battalion Column of Divisions countermarches by Files, each on its own ground, so as to change its Front, and face to its former Rear.*

Fig. 19, E. CAUTION. RIGHT FACE.

The column standing with its right in front, receives the *caution,* countermarch by files. At the word *right face,* the whole will face to the right, and the officer of each division will instantly quit the piv-

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ot and place himself on the right of his division; his covering sergeant will advance to the spot which he has quitted, and immediately face to the right about. At the word *march*, the whole move, the officer wheeling short to the right, followed by his files of men, till his pivot front rank man closes to his sergeant, who has remained immovable, then each officer instantly gives the words *halt, front, dress*, to his division, so as to square and close it to the right now become the pivot flank, and immediately takes the place of his sergeant, who falls back into the rear. Thus the column will face to its former rear.

MARCH.

Halt, Front, Dress.

When the column stands with its left in front, the order of the above in the countermarch, will be inverted.

Here observe, if the divisions are not equal, the distances after the countermarch will not be true wheeling distances, but will be such as are equal to the front of each preceding division, and therefore the divisions must regain their true wheeling distances before they wheel up into line.

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§ 101. *When the Column is changed by the successive march of Division from the Rear to the Front.*

Fig. 12, A. When the right is in front, and the left to be brought up, the column in motion will be ordered to

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HALT. LEFT WING TO THE FRONT.

Right Face, Quick, March. Halt, Front, March.

Right Face, Quick, March. Halt, Front, March.

halt. At the *caution*, left wing to the front, the officer of the rear division instantly orders, *right face, quick march,* till its left flank can pass the right flank of the others, then commands *halt, front, march,* and moves on close by the right of the preceding division. The officer commanding that division, on the approach of the other, orders, *right face, quick march,* behind the now leading one, till he covers, then orders *halt, front, march,* and proceeds at due wheeling distance. The other divisions successively perform the same operations, and when the right division is at its place in the rear, then the column is in its proper inverted order. But if the column should be at half or quarter distance before this operation, then all the divisions may *face* at once, and proceed as above directed, each taking its proper distance before it moves forward in column.

The advantages of this operation are many. It enables a column which expects to form by wheels to its left, to be ready to form by wheels to its right, without inverting its order. It permits a battalion column to march off from whatever flank is most advantageous to enter its line of formation. By changing the leading flank of a battalion, it prepares it to enter on a line which unforseen circumstances require it should prolong, &c.

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§ 102. *When the Column changes its leading Flank, by the Divisions marching through each other from Rear to Front.*

Fig. 12, B.

DIVISIONS TO THE RIGHT AND LEFT, OPEN MARCH, HALT.
March Close Inwards. March, Halt.

RIGHT ABOUT FACE, MARCH.
Inwards Turn, Front, March.

HALT.

When the column is marched from the right it should naturally form to the left, but the intention here is to form to the right, therefore the command will be given *divisions to the right and left open, march,* on which all the divisions except the last does open by the side step, half to each flank, a space sufficient to allow the rear division to pass through to the front. The left division marches on through the others, and when its rear rank arrives at the front rank of the next one, that division closes by the side step and follows at proper distance. In this manner they succeed each other until the inverted column is formed. But if the column is not to change its ground after opening out, the rear division marches on at a short pace to allow the following ones time to perform their operations. They face to the right about, march till they successively arrive at the ground the rear one occupied, then face inwards, join and march till they get the word *halt,* when the flanks are changed, and the left division is exactly on the ground where the right stood.

This method is by no means the best calculated for inverting a column, if there is danger of being

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interrupted by an enemy in the execution: it may be used in parades of show, or where there is no danger apprehended from an adversary. The manner of changing the wings of a battalion column, described in the foregoing section, is much better, as it gives an open flank to cover the operations in the rear of the line, until the inverted order is obtained.

THE CLOSE COLUMN.

1st. The great object of the close column is, to form the line to the front in the quickest manner. It may be formed from the open column of march or manœuvre, or from line. When formed from the column of march, it is generally for the purpose of deploying into line. When formed from line, it is generally done with all expedition consistent with order; to make an attack in certain confined situations, to facilitate movements to front, flanks, or rear; to force a pass through a defile, &c. and again form the line with the utmost celerity.

2d. The battalion close column will be generally composed of companies, but when it is halted, and is to deploy into line, it may form column of grand divisions, viz. two companies in front, and five in depth.

3d. When the close column is halted, rear ranks are one foot, and divisions one pace asunder. Officers, and their covering sergeants are on the pivot flanks of their companies; colours and subalterns are on the reverse flanks of their com-

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panies; music, drummers, fifers, and pioneers are in the rear of the column; artillery may be either in the front, or on the reverse flank, as ordered when the column is in motion.

4th. The close column may form in front or rear of either of the flank companies, or in front or rear of any central company or division. The same general rules which apply to the open column, equally apply to the close column, and must be particularly observed.

5th. The commands for the formation, and display; also all the necessary movements while in close column, are given by the commanding officer of the battalion, during the execution of which strict silence should prevail, so that orders may be heard and promptly obeyed.

FORMATION OF THE CLOSE COLUMN FROM NEIL.

§ 103. *When before or behind either of the Flank Companies.*

Fig. 25. CAUTION. TO THE —— FACE.

The *caution* will designate the company, and whether the formation will be in the front or rear of it, the battalion will then be ordered to face to that company, and the heads of all the other companies will disengage their heads to whichever hand conducts them to their places in the close column. The officers and the covering sergeants prepare to conduct their files, and the officers of the named company will shift if necessary to the flank which is to become the pivot one, his ser-

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geant will place himself six or eight paces before or behind him (as circumstances require) in order to mark the perpendicular front of the column. At the word *quick march*, the whole will move to the front or rear of the company designed to be formed on; the same rules will be observed as in forming open columns from line, except that the sergeant do not run out; each officer stoping in his own person at his first giving the words *halt, front, dress* to his division.

QUICK, MARCH.

Halt, front, Dress.

It is necessarry during the formation of the close column that the commanding officer should place himself in front of the named division, in order to regulate the perpendicular position of the column, as soon as the battalion is put in motion. He will pay particular attention to the officers covering as they come up, in the direction given, whether such covering is taken from front or rear, parallel or oblique, which must entirely depend on circumstances, or the will of the commanding officer, in subordination to the commander in chief.

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§ 104. *When on a Central Company.*

Fig. 25.

CAUTION. The *caution* for formation being given, the named company stands fast and the rest of the battalion

INWARDS FACE. will face *inwards*, the heads of companies will disengage according as

QUICK MARCH. they are to be in front or rear. At the word *march*, they will proceed

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Halt, Front, Dress. — as before directed, part of the battalion placing itself before and part behind the given company, the officers covering on the proper pivot flank.

Fig. 28, A. B. — When the battalion forms close column facing to the rear, the same operations are performed as when facing to the front, with this difference, that the *caution* expresses what is intended to be done, and that the named division countermarches, and the other divisions of the battalion face outwards from it and lead from the farthest flank, in order to perform the countermarch of the whole.

OUTWARDS FACE, QUICK MARCH. *Halt, Front, Dress.*

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§ 105. *When the Column marches to a Flank.*

CAUTION. THE COLUMN WILL MARCH TO THE ——

The *caution* will designate to which flank it is to march; if to the reverse flank, the leaders and their sergeants will move quickly by the rear of their divisions to that flank, and the colours and subalterns who were on it will change to the other.

RIGHT OR LEFT FACE, QUICK MARCH.

The whole will then *face*, and be put in motion: the officer that conducts the front division keeps in the alignment, and all the others preserve their situations and squareness, dressing by him.

Halt, Front.

When the column is ordered to *halt* and *front* the pivot officers, &c. if not at their places already, shift to them by the rear of their respective divisions.

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§ 106. *When the Column marches to the Front.*

MARCH. At the word *march*, the whole step off; but if it is intended to move the column a considerable distance, it will be ordered to

LOOSEN RANKS. *loosen ranks*, on which all the divisions except the leading one, *step short*, and each successively, as the ranks loosen, will receive the

Step Out. word from its leader, *step out*. If a general command, *halt* be given, the whole column halts in its present order, but if the word halt is given to the front division only, in a low tone of voice, the others

Halt. move up and receive the word from their respective officers as they close up in column.

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§ 107. *When the Column changes direction on the March.*

The close column being the most inflexible form that troops can be thrown into, all changes of direction must be gradual and inconsiderable during the march; the head will step short on a moveable pivot, circling into the new direction, while all the other divisions, by advancing a shoulder, inclining up to the wheeling flank, will successively and regularly conform to each other and to the leading division, so that the whole on the word *forwards*, may move on together as before.

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DEPLOYMENT OF THE CLOSE COLUMN INTO LINE.

§ 108. *When the Battalion Close Column of Companies deploys into Line, on the front Division, the Right in Front.*

Fig. 26, B.

FORM LINE ON THE FRONT DIVISION.

The column halted with its front division in the alignment, and the others in a parallel situation, will close up: a point of formation will be taken in the prolongation of that division, beyond where the flank of the battalion will extend. The *caution* will then be given for the line to form on the front division.

LEFT FACE, QUICK MARCH.

At the word *left face*, all the divisions face except the front one, its officer shifting to the right. At the word *march*, those faced step off quick, with heads dressed, moving parallel to the line of formation. The files must be closed without the smallest degree of opening out.

Halt, Front, Dress. March.

Halt, Dress.

The officer of the second division on the word march, steps to the right, and allows his sergeant to lead his division a space equal to its front; he then gives his word, *halt, front, dress;* he being on the right of his division, instantly gives the word *march*, the officer then steps nimbly forwards, places himself before the left flank of the preceding division, ready to give the word *halt, dress*, at the instant his inward flank forms up with that division; he then dresses his men as

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quickly as possible, correcting them on the formed part of the line and distant point, and then resumes his post in line.

Halt, Front, Dress. March. Halt, Dress.

In this manner every other division proceeds, being successively *fronted, marched up, halted,* and *dressed* in line; each officer, as he approaches within five or six paces of his ground, may step smartly to the flank of his preceding division, that he may the more accurately *halt dress* his own; the leading sergeant goes to his own place; when the officer of each succeeding company comes to occupy it, he then covers his own officer.

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§ 109. *When the Battalion Close Column of Companies deploys on the Rear Division, the Right in Front.*

Fig. 26, A.

FORM LINE ON THE REAR DIVISION

The column halted with the right in front, and the point of formation taken to the right in prolongation of the head division, beyond where the right of the battalion will rest. A *caution* will be given *to form line on the rear division;* on which, officers and their sergeants pass behind their divisions, and take their posts on the right of each. A non-commissioned officer will be sent from the rear division to place himself on the left flank of the front division, to mark the ground for the rear to

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move up to; the distant point will be given to the front division in the alignment, and if intermediate ones are necessary, its officer will take them up.

RIGHT FACE. The command to the *right face* will then be given, on which all the divisions except the rear one face to the right. On the word

QUICK MARCH. *march*, the faced divisions step off with the heads of files dressed to the left, the head one moves along the alignment, and the others parallel closed to the right. When the rear division is uncovered it

March. receives the word *march*, on which it proceeds, and when within a few paces of its ground its officer steps up nimbly to the person detached to mark its ground; when

Halt, Dress. it arrives, he gives the word, *halt, dress*, instantly correcting his division on the distant point of formation, and resumes his place in the line.

At the commencement of the movement, the commander of the division preceding the rear one, having stepped quickly round to the rear of his division, without impeding its motion, being led by his covering sergeant, gives his

Halt, Front, Dress. word, *halt, front, dress;* when it has marched a distance equal to its front, thereby uncovering the rear one, which instantly moves forwards; the officer then places himself on the left, and his ser-

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March. — geant remains on the right of his division; when his own front is clear, he gives the word *march;* his divisio[n] proceeds, and he in due time, advances to the right of the preceding division, now on the line, and gives his word *halt, dress;* he corrects his division on the right, and then replaces his sergeant, who instantly covers him.

Halt, Dress.

Halt, Front, Dress. — All the other divisions are successively conducted in the same manner, until the right, which has been marching on the alignment, arrives at its just ground, and receives the word *halt, front, dress;* the line will now be correctly formed on the given points of formation.

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§ 110. *When the close Column of Companies deploys on a central Division.*

Fig. 27.

THE LINE WILL FORM ON —— DIVISION, OUTWARDS FACE, QUICK MARCH. *Halt, Front, Dress.* — The points of formation must be first given to both flanks in the prolongation of the front division. At the caution to form on a central division, the officers who lead, will shift accordingly; those in front of the named one face to one flank, and those in the rear to the other, viz. to the hand that leads to their ground. When the named division is uncovered it moves up to its marked flank in line; those that were in front of it proceed as if forming on a rear division, and those

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in rear of it, as if forming on a front division.

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§ 111. *When the close Column of Companies forms Column of two Companies or Grand Divisions.*

Fig. 29, A. B.

ALTERNATE COMPANIES WILL FORM COLUMN OF GRAND DIVISIONS.

MARCH.

Halt, Front, Dress.
March.
Halt-Dress.

A *caution* is given that alternate companies from the front will form grand divisions. At the word *face*, the alternate companies will face to the pivot flank, their officers taking one side step to clear the front rank. At the word *march*, the officers stand fast, the covering sergeants of each conduct the divisions, and the officer of each when it has cleared the standing division, gives the words *halt, front, dress; march*, then *halt-dress*, when he arrives at the one he is to join; the sergeants remain on the flanks the same as when deploying into line; the colours remain with their proper divisions, and the supernumeraries go to the rear of the column, if not already there.

CLOSE DISTANCE TO THE FRONT, MARCH.

Halt-Dress.

Whether the column has its right or left in front, the officers and sergeants now take their posts, so that the right company of each division may have its officer and sergeant on the right or in the centre of the divisions. Then a *caution* to close distance to the front is given; at the word *march*, the divisions move, and each pivot officer gives the word *halt-dress*, when his division has closed; the close

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column of grand divisions is now completely ready to perform any required movement from this position.

§ 112. *When the Column is to change Front by Countermarching.*

Fig. 29, C.

THE COLUMN WILL COUNTER-MARCH. —— FACE EVEN DIVISIONS QUICK MARCH. HALT. THE WHOLE COUNTER-MARCH. QUICK MARCH. *Halt, Front, Dress.*

When the divisions are at a sufficient distance, each will separately countermarch as directed for the open column; but if the column is close, the whole must *face* from the pivot flank; the even or alternate companies from the head will *march* on till its rear has quitted the column four or five paces; they will be then ordered to *countermarch* towards the column; at the same time the odd divisions countermarch which before stood still, each on its ground; the even divisions may again march on till they are again in close column, or remain formed in column of grand divisions, with the front of the column changed.

§ 113. *When the close Column of two Companies in Front deploys into Line on the Front Division.*

Fig. 26, B.

When the caution of deployment is given, the line will be prolonged on the front division; all the attendant circumstances being prepared, the divisions will deploy and arrive in line in the same manner, and by

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the same words of command as the column of companies; the supernumeraries, &c. gradually take their places in the rear.

§ 114. *On the Rear Division.*

Fig. 26, A. The caution for deployment being given, the grand divisions observe the same rules laid down for the deployment of column of companies, the same words of command being used, and the mode of execution perfectly similar.

§ 115. *On a Central Division.*

Fig. 27. When the caution for deployment is given, and the divisions faced outwards, the double operation of forming on the front and rear will be performed as already described, same as column of companies, sec. 110, with the same words of command.

When the battalion deploys on a front division, it always faces to the pivot flank, which then becomes the leading one.—When it deploys on the rear division it faces from the pivot flank, which then becomes the following one.—But before deploys, the column must always be well closed up; formations on a front or rear division may be either halted or in motion; deployments are frequently made on the march, in re-forming the line after passing an obstacle and lengthening out a flank

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of a line that may be done in movement.—But formations on central divisions must invariably be gin from the halt of the close column.—The single battalion ought to very frequently during exercise practise these movements as they are very essential sometimes in forming the line.

OBLIQUE DEPLOYMENTS.

It may sometimes happen that circumstances will demand the immediate deployment of a column in a line oblique to the one on which it stands; it then becomes a matter of necessity, not of choice; the quickest and most exact method of deployments is from the battalion standing perpendicular to the line which it is to form on, but the very circumstances which require the oblique deployment may not permit the operation of placing the column perpendicular to the line; therefore should the troops be accustomed to the performance of the following deployments.

§ 116. *When the Deployment is to be made on an Oblique Line Advanced.*

The front division will be wheeled up on its reverse flank into the new direction; the distant point being given, the column faces to the hand it deploys to.—The leaders of divisions will then turn themselves so as to take a direction parallel to the new line; the whole will be put in motion, and the rear of divisions get gradually into the direction of their heads which proceeds and forms as usual. Great care must be taken by the leaders

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not to close in on each other, nor to the hand which conducts them, and be very precise in justly timing the words *halt, front,* to each division, which ought to be then parallel to the line of formation when they receive the word.

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§ 117. *When the Deployment is to be made on an Oblique Line Retired.*

Fig. 30.

The front division will be wheeled up on its pivot flank into the new direction, and the line will be prolonged to the distant point.—The same operations take place as when the line is advanced, but in inverted order, which makes the performance more difficult as the rear divisions must take particular care to yield to and ease from the march of the front.—If the front division will advance a few paces before it wheels in the oblique direction, it facilitates the heads of the rear files gaining it gradually.—These deployments should never be required but on the front division; if demanded on a rear or central division, the execution will be extremely difficult.

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§ 118. *When the close Column halted, is to form Line by the prolongation of its Flank on either the first, central or rear Division.*

When the *caution* of formation is given, the division named will

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stand fast, the others march in close column on the given line; the pivot officers take wheeling distance from each other successively, beginning at the named one, and give the word *halt* when each has acquired it. The whole being in open column, the line will be formed by a wheel to a flank. If the front division is the named one, those behind it must face about march, take their distances, and successively front; if from the rear, the rear only halts, and the rest open out from it, halting at proper wheeling distance; if from the centre, the front wing advances in the same manner, the rear wing faces to the right about, and proceeds as when forming on the head division as above.

Fig. 14.

CHANGES OF POSITION OF THE BATTALION COLUMN OF COMPANIES BY THE ECHELLON MOVEMENTS.

The application of the echellon positions and movements are found to be the most convenient for the purposes of making immediate attacks and retreats of large bodies, both in the oblique and direct changes of situation; by an oblique march an enemy may be approached, and even outwinged, and by the same movement the following wing may be refused to him, and kept back from his fire until the leading wing has obtained the desired situation; besides the great advantages of each division moving independent at the same

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time with uniformity, and more facility than in line.

The direct changes are performed by the perpendicular and successive march of divisions from line, to front and rear, which produces new parallel positions; but when formed from the wheels of divisions from line, produces new oblique positions to either flank, yet the echellon of march may be considered as a column of a particular kind, as well as the open column, and may be easily converted into such.

As the wheels into echellon from the line is not confined to any portion of the circle under a quarter, apparent difficulty will arise with respect to the parallelism of the divisions, which decides the justness of movement; this will be obviated by a given number of paces to be wheeled by bodies of equal strength, and will serve as so many bases of formation, which may be performed with as much accuracy as wheeling the quarter, or any larger portion of the circle. But suppose the divisions are of unequal strength, then each covering sergeant, as the case may require, will place himself before or behind a given file (say the eighth) from the standing flank, and take a named number of wheeling paces, thereby become a direction for the division to wheel up to and halt. When the change of position to the rear is to be made, the battalion or line may wheel backwards into echellon, face about, and proceed, or it may be ordered to face about, wheel into echellon, and then march.

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The degree of wheel must be first determined by the commander, either by the eye, or by a certain number of wheeling paces, which he will announce, such as the half or quarter wheel, viz. the half or quarter of the quarter circle, or 1, 2, 3, 4, &c. paces by a named file from the pivot.

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§ 119. *When a Battalion from Line wheels forwards by Companies to either Flank into Echellon and halts.*

COMPANIES, WHEEL FORWARDS, —— PACES, TO THE ——

Fig. 6. 24, 31.

When the *caution* is given that companies will wheel forwards —— paces to the right, or left, so as to place them perpendicular to their future lines of march, each officer, if not already on the named flank, moves to it, and his covering sergeant runs out at the same time, places himself before the eighth file from the pivot flank, and instantly takes the required number of wheeling paces, on the circumference of the circle of which his flank man is the centre, and then stands fast with his body in a line with that flank man, who also faces in a line with his sergeant. The whole sergeants will thus be in a line, but if any correction is necessary, it must be made by the commanding officer, from the leading flank, before the companies wheel.

QUICK, MARCH.

On the word *quick, march,* each company will wheel up till its eighth file closes behind the sergeant; at that instant the officer gives the

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Halt, Dress. word *halt, dress*, eyes will be turned to him, and when the dressings are completed, the sergeants place themselves on the outward flank.

But when the movement is to be made to the rear instead of the front, the battalion will in general *face* to the *right* about, wheel forwards into echellon in the same manner, and proceed as if the line was to its proper front.—Thus the flanks wheeled to, remain in an exact line; also the wheeling flanks, if the divisions are of equal strength; the perpendicular raised from the standing flank of each division will cut within the preceding one in proportion to the degree of wheel, till it exceeds the quarter circle, and then becomes an echellon to the rear.

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§ 120. *When a Battalion in Oblique Echellon marches forwards and halts, ready to form in such direction as shall be required.*

Fig. 6, B.

MARCH.

The companies thus standing parallel to each other, (as described in the preceding section) and their leaders on the pivot flanks, at the word *march*, the whole will move on at the ordinary step, each flank preserving its own perpendicular; every officer must now be attentive to preserve the distance he marched off at; also his oblique covering in the line of pivots, which remain parallel to the original line. —If these directions are properly

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HALT.

observed the echellon may be ordered to halt at any moment, and will then be prepared to form up either parallel or oblique to the line it quitted. If parallel, the divisions will wheel back each to the flank of the one behind it.—If oblique, the divisions will move up to the direction of the leading one in whatever position that may be placed.

Fig. 31.

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§. 121. *When the Battalion having wheeled from Line into Oblique Echellon, has marched, halted, and is to form Line parallel to the one it quitted.*

WHEEL BACK INTO LINE.

The *caution* will be given that the companies wheel back into line; the officers take one step forwards, and the pivot men face into line.

QUICK, MARCH. *Halt, Dress.*

At the word *quick, march*, each company wheels back to the new pivot, and receives the words *halt, dress*, from its own officer; the eyes must be turned towards him, and the line being formed, officers and sergeants, if not at their places, move to them, except in the middle of a change of position, or occasional wheel into line, which is to be directly followed by another movement; in these cases, officers do not shift unless ordered, but remain steady to fire, and again wheel into echellon to resume the march.

Fig. 6, 31.

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§ 122. *When the Battalion in Oblique Echellon has marched and halted, and is to form up Oblique to the Line it quitted.*

Fig. 31, 34, D.

If the formation is made forwards, and the leading division wheeled forwards the same number of paces it wheeled from line into echellon, then the others move on and dress up with it successively.

If its wheel exceeds that number of paces, the others wheel up one half of the excess, move on and dress up with it successively.

If its wheel is less than that number of paces, the others wheel back one half of what they before wheeled forwards, deducting one half of what the leading division has now wheeled forwards, then move up and dress with it.

If the formation is to be on the prolongation of the first division as it then stands, the others wheel back one half of what they before wheeled forwards, and then move on, and dress up with it.

If the leading division wheels back into the new position, the others wheel back in addition to the one half of what they before wheeled forwards, viz. half of what the leading division has wheeled, and move up and dress.

All these wheelings are to make the divisions stand perpendicular to the lines by which they are

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to march to their points of formation, which vary according to the positions given by the leading division.

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§ 123. *When the open Column of Companies wheels backwards into Echellon, in order to be formed into Line on any named Division.*

Fig. 24, B.

If the line is to be formed on the head division, it will either remain square to the column, or wheeled on either flank into the intended direction; and on it will depend the relative position which is taken by other companies, and which will be determined by the commander either by the eye or by trial.

COMPANIES WHEEL BACKWARDS —— PACES ON THE ——

On the *caution*, that all the companies except the leading one, will wheel back on the right or left —— paces, which wheel will always be on the reverse flank, as being that which will first come into line. When the officer moves to that flank, the sergeant will place himself with his back close to the eighth file of the rear rank, and instantly take the named number of paces, halts, fronts, with his body in the line of the flank man on whom he wheeled. At the word

MARCH.

march, the division wheels back till the eighth file touches the breast of the sergeant, who instantly gives the word halt, in a low tone; it will then be halted and

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Halt, Dress. dressed by the officer; the sergeant places himself on the outward flank, thus ready to move.

If the line is to be formed on the rear division, it will remain steady; the others will face about, wheel back on the pivot flank, as being that which will first arrive in line. *March, halt, front* successively in line with the rear company. But if the line is to be formed on the rear company, and it faced to the rear, the whole column will countermarch by files, and proceed in the same manner as if forming the line on the front.

If the line is to be formed on the centre of the column the named company will stand fast, or, be wheeled on one of its flanks, or its own centre into the required direction; the divisions in front will be ordered to *face about,* and the whole except the named company will wheel the required number of paces, those in front on the proper pivots.—The whole will then *march* into line with the central company; but if the column is retiring, the divisions will first countermarch before forming.

Fig. 24, A.

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§ 124. *When the Battalion changes position to the front on a fixed flank Company, by throwing forwards the rest of the Battalion.*

Fig. 31. The new direction being ascertained by placing a person twenty

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or thirty paces beyond the standing flank, the commander will order the sergeant of the fixed flank company to wheel up from the eighth file into that line in order to determine the required number of paces.—He will then order that company to wheel and halt in the new position; the adjutant will then prolong the line as far as the moving flank of the battalion will extend.—The *caution* will then be given to the other companies to wheel half the number of paces that the flank has done which will enable them to stand perpendicular to the new line, viz. from its flank in the old line to its relative flank point in the new one.—The word *march* will then be given, on which the whole will move except the flank division already formed.

COMPANIES WHEEL FORWARDS —— PACES TO THE ——

QUICK, MARCH. *Halt, Dress, March.*

When the officer conducting the second company approaches within seven or eight paces of where his leading flank will join the standing company, he gives the word *shoulders forwards* (which will be the outwards one) the man next himself will preserve the same step, gradually turning his shoulders so as to arrive square in the new line, the rest conforming to him, lengthen their step in proportion, so as to form up with a full parallel front. The word *halt, dress*, will be given by the officer, and the correction made on the given distant point.—

—— *Shoulders forwards*

Halt, Dress Up.

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In this manner division after division forms up, each observing the same rules as they approach the line; the sergeants will remain on the outward flank until they are replaced by the officer of the succeeding division, then they return to cover their own officers.

The exact formation of this oblique line entirely depends upon divisions wheeling only one half of what the first division wheeled, so as to have the other half to wheel when their pivot flank arrives on the line; the march will then be parallel, and the line easier formed than by the above mode of circling in the last half wheel; the distance and ground of divisions will be more correctly preserved, with other obvious advantages.

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§ 125. *When the Battalion changes position to the rear on a fixed flank Company, by throwing backwards the other Companies.*

Fig. 35, A.
RIGHT ABOUT FACE.
COMPANIES FORWARDS WHEEL —— PACES.
TO THE —— QUICK MARCH.
Quick, March.

When the new position is given, the named flank company will be wheeled backwards into it, the rest of the battalion *faces* to the right about, the divisions will then wheel forwards the given number of paces towards the standing flank. Or, as mentioned before, they may, if so ordered, wheel backwards into echellon, and then face about. At the word *march*, the divisions step off with their rear ranks in front, and

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Halt, Front, Dress, Back. form in line in the same manner as if changing position forwards, and when the leading flank arrives in line, the words *halt*, *front*, *dress*, *back*, will be given, on which the division fronts and dresses on the officer, who is required to be very active in this movement, otherwise the point of appui will not be ready for the next officer, who has to perform the same operation.

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§ 126. *When the Battalion changes position on a central Company, by throwing one wing forwards, and the other backwards.*

Fig. 32, 35, B. The named central company will be wheeled into the new position as already directed, backwards or forwards, according to the wing it belongs to; two points will then be taken, one on each flank, about where the flanks of the battalion will extend, and in the line of the central company. The *caution* will then be given, the retiring wing *faces* about, and both wings wheel their companies forwards and inwards half the number of paces the central company wheeled.

—— WING RIGHT ABOUT FACE. COMPANIES WHEEL —— PACES INWARDS. QUICK, MARCH.

MARCH. HALT WHEEL BACK INTO LINE. QUICK, MARCH. *Halt, Dress.* The whole *march* forwards into line with the central company, the advancing wing dressing up and the retiring wing fronting and dressing back as above directed. But should this movement be interrupted by a sudden attack of the

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enemy's cavalry, the line will instantly be ordered to form by wheeling up the advancing divisions, and fronting and dressing back the retiring ones, in the same manner as if on the distant points. When the enemy is repulsed, the echellon march will be resumed as at first, and the new position taken.

The changes of position on a moveable pivot are performed in the same manner as on a fixed one, with this exception, that the whole is put in motion at once, and the divisions form in regular succession as they arrive in line, whether to front or rear. In a considerable line there can be but one battalion which forms on a fixed division; all the others therefore must be moveable in proportion to the distance from the general centre, and from the point where the leading flank is to rest in the new line.

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§ 127. *When the Companies of a Battalion march off successively from Line, in Echellon to the Front, and again form Line either to the Front or to a Flank.*

Fig. 33, A. B.

When the intention is to form to the front, viz. parallel to the line they quitted, the divisions may be retired at any named distance behind each other, and when the leading division *halts*, the others will move on and form up with it in line.

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But when the intention is to form in line to the flank, the whole will be ordered to *halt*. The directing flank of the leading division must be considered the first point in the intended oblique line, and the new direction will be established by placing a point beyond it; a sergeant from each division will run out and place himself as a pivot lining on the first given points, and on each other, preserving a distance from the one before him equal to the front of the preceding division. The rear companies may then, by the oblique march, or by facing and filing, move up to their respective sergeants, face and front; the line will then be formed by wheeling up.

MOVEMENTS OF THE BATTALION IN LINE.

The march of the battalion in line either to front or rear, being the most material and most difficult of all movements; *To the front* is required near the enemy, and immediately precedes the attack; therefore, every exertion of the commanding officer, and every attention of officers and men, become absolutely necessary, in order to attain its just performance.

To the rear, when a retreat is ordered, and when the object is to rally on certain ground at a short distance, or when reinforced from the line of reserve, the design being to preserve the extension of the line, to prevent the enemy from out-flanking the retreat, or for other causes.

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The great and indispensable requisites of these operations are, the perpendicular direction of the march, the perfect squareness of the shoulders and body of each individual, the gentle touch of the files, the accurate cadence and length of step given by the sergeants who move out in front of the centre for that purpose, whom the battalion covers, follows, and complies with in every respect.—If these are not observed, its direction will be lost, openings and closings of the line will take place; hence disorder will ensue at a time when perfect order is required, and when no proper remedy can be found.

The necessity of every individual being well prepared for these operations is evident, but more particularly to ensure correctness, the directing sergeants should be trained to this important object, on whose precision of movement dependence may be placed. The commanding officer in the rear observing the sergeants in front, can more easily perceive any deviation from the true position, and correct it immediately.

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§ 128. *When the Battalion halted, and correctly dressed, is to advance in Line.*

The commanding officer will place himself twelve paces in the rear in an exact line with the directing sergeant, who moves out from betwixt the colours six paces perpendicular to the front, and halts; he will be then informed if his di-

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rection is just, if not, an object in front may be given him, or a sergeant sent out twenty or thirty paces to place himself in a line with the directing sergeant and commanding officer; the two other sergeants who were behind, move up and place themselves one on each side of the directing sergeant, an officer from the rear replaces him. The line of direction being thus ascertained, at the word *march*, the whole battalion instantly step off, glancing the eyes towards the colours; the replacing officer betwixt the colours in the front rank, preserves the exact distance of six paces from the advanced sergeant, and is now the guide for the battalion.

The centre advanced sergeant is alone answerable for the direction and must therefore preserve cadence and step as well as the true line; the other two scrupulously conform to his position, and maintain their parallelism to the front of the battalion, thereby present an object to which it must move square; the directions of the commander only is to be attended to, and if any alterations are required they must be made coolly and gradually, so as to prevent confusion.

Officers. Officers in the ranks are but individuals, and must be equally attentive as their men; they can only observe their own squareness of march, and must not attempt to

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dress their companies by looking along or calling to them; otherwise they will derange the march themselves, such care belongs to the officers in the rear; well-trained soldiers will seldom have occasion to be spoken to for that purpose; knowing the remedy, they will gradually apply it.

Colours. The colours must uniformly be carried upright in order to facilitate the moving and dressing of the line.—Other provision being made for the direction, the step and cadence; dependance must not be put in the officer who carries them, as the embarrassment of windy weather, rough, uneven ground, &c. has rendered that guide sometimes uncertain, therefore the directing sergeants have been substituted and found more sure.

Closed Ranks. The ranks being closed before the march begins, must move at the lock step, and not be allowed to open during the march, as the correct movement of the battallion depends much on their close order.

Arms Carried. —Arms are always to be carried *shouldered*, on the march in line, as otherwise it would be vain to look for a just line, or the true distances of files.

Flanks. The flanks are on no account to be kept back, or advanced before the centre; in either case the distance of files must be lost, and the battalion will not cover its ground;

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when the officer who is on each flank of the battalion observes a line drawn from himself through the centre of the battalion passing considerably before, or behind, the other flank he must conclude there is some error on that wing, and immediately endeavour to rectify it. The commander must be careful that the form of the battalion is kept perfect, not allowed a convex or concave shape, as this occasions a floating in the march, which, if not timely prevented by necessary caution, produces disorder.

Step. Inattention or inequality of step will produce a waving in the march of the battalion, but the communication of this may be prevented by the attention of the major and adjutant, who seeing where it originates, will instantly caution the companies in fault, and warn the others not to participate of the error. A flank may be at first sight supposed to be behind when the fault really arises from a central division bulging out, which prevents the flank from being seen, and should be guarded against But whatever alteration is to be made in any part of the battalion, it must be done gradually, and not hurried, that the shake it occasions may be felt as little as possible. The mounted officers only must correct such faults, or at least point them out.

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Music. When the battalion advances in line any considerable distance, or moves up in parade, the music may be allowed to play, and the drums to roll; the large drum, nor no other instrument which marks time by the stroke, can be permitted; wind instruments only play. When the line is retiring, music must never play.

HALT. The battalion marching in perfect order when it arrives at its ground, will receive the word *halt*; the step then taking will be finished and the whole halt, with their eyes turned towards the centre and remain steady. The commander closes to the rear rank to see that the battalion is sufficiently dressed and in a direction truly parallel to the one it left.—No caution is to be given before the word halt, as it would encourage incorrectness, and create uncertainty, but on receiving the word, the whole halt, and remain in that position firmly.

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§ 129. *When the Battalion is ordered to Dress.*

If after the halt, farther *dressing* is necessary, whatever correction is made must be by advancing or retiring the flanks, and not by moving the centre, which has been the guide in the march, and stopped when ordered at the designed point.

DRESS. 1st. When the commanding officer gives the word *dress*, the officer

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on the left of the colours, will dress his company on the colours in a proper parallel direction, and the two wings will immediately conform to the centre and receive the word *eyes front.*

EYES FRONT.

2d. Should a more correct and expeditious dressing be required, one colour will be ordered to advance one step, the officers of companies, of each wing will advance, face to the colours and cover, preserving the distances for their respective companies to move up, on which the battalion will be ordered *right dress*; the whole will move to their respective officers, who are favourably posted for halting and dressing their companies; after which, without loss of time, the officers front into line.

BATTALION, RIGHT DRESS, MARCH. *Halt, Dress,*

Fig. 22.

3d. Or the battalion may be correctly dressed in the following manner: one of the colours will advance a named number of paces, an under officer of the battalion is placed in a determined line, and an under officer on the other flank will align himself on the colour and the given point—the two wings immediately conform to these three points in the line; this dressing may soon be made if done at the ordinary pace. A small change of direction may in this manner be given to the battalion when halted, either on a flank or central company, to front or rear.

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§ 190. *When the Battalion is to retire.*

The necessity of the line being previously dressed, is as essential as when it is to advance; and the same care taken to ascertain the direction of its march. Therefore, before the retreat is to begin, an officer will place himself thirty or forty paces in the rear in a perpendicular line with the directing sergeant, who conducts to the rear in the same manner as to the front.

THE BATTALION WILL RETIRE. When the *caution* is given that the battalion will retire, the directing sergeant will take his station in the rear at the same distance as when the battalion moves to the front, on the perpendicular line from the centre of the battalion to the retired officer.

RIGHT ABOUT FACE. At the word *right about face*, the whole face; and the supernumerary officer replaces the directing sergeant by moving up between the colours, which also move with him into the leading rank. The lieutenant-colonel or major, passes through the centre to the rear.

MARCH. Immediately after facing about, the word *march* will be given, and the whole proceed in the same manner as when moving to the front.

HALT, FRONT. When the battalion is to front it will receive the word *halt, front*, on which it immediately halts and fronts; the officers and sergeants will resume their proper stations, and then dress, if necessary, in the manner already prescribed.

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The battalion is not to face about till every thing is prepared for its instant march, it's halt front is one command, therefore it never stands faced unnecessarily to the rear; music, supernumerary officers, &c. must be careful not to impede the march to the rear, but rather assist the battalion in it.

THE PASSAGE OF OBSTACLES BY THE BATTALION MARCHING IN LINE.

When the battalion is marching in line to either front or rear, and partial obstacles present themselves, they must be passed, by the formation, march, and deployment of the close column.—Such parts as are not interrupted, move on, but such parts as are interrupted, double by divisions as ordered, behind the adjoining flank or flanks, and thus move on in column till they pass; as the ground opens they will successively deploy and again form the line. The columns must always be behind the line, closed up in the march, and will generally be composed of subdivisions; the first that is obliged to double, will be directed to which hand by the commanding officer, the others as occasion requires, will successively double and place themselves behind it. The interrupted body may double to one or both flanks, according to circumstances and orders. Obstacles that impede a flank will occasion a column to be formed from the flank towards the centre; and obstacles that impede the centre, will of course occasion two columns to be formed from the centre towards the flanks; the columns must follow that part of the

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line which is not impeded, and either doubling into column or deploying into line, the rear divisions must conform to their leading one.

§. 131. *When the Obstacle presents a considerable Front parallel to the Line.*

Fig. 38, C. D. The part impeded will at once be ordered to double behind such one or two divisions as will clear them of the obstacle. In this case timely *caution* will be given by the commander on that part of the line which is to pass the obstacle, when within a few paces of where it will

HALT, FACE, QUICK, MARCH. be impeded, is ordered to *halt, face,* to one or both flanks; when the heads of the subdivisions disengage they will march quick, till they arrive square close behind the leading one and each other, then *halt, front,* and march forwards, taking up the ordinary step when closed up.—

Halt, Front, Quick, March, Ordinary. The leaders of divisions will remain on the flank of the column next the opening which they have to fill up when passed.

§ 132. *If the point of the Obstacle is presented to the Line, and it continues to increase.*

Fig. 38, G. Then the doubling will be successive, beginning with the division which is first impeded and continuing as it becomes necessary, till the column can advance on clear ground. The interrupted division will be ordered by the commander *to halt, face, quick, march,* and by

CAUTION.

HALT, FACE, QUICK, MARCH.

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Halt, Front, Quick, March.

Ordinary.

its own officer to *halt, front, march,* and follow the adjoining one.—When this last division also becomes impeded, these two perform the same operation, and place themselves in column behind the next; the divisions successively repeat the same as the ground narrows, until the obstacle ceases to exist.

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§ 133. *When the Obstacle diminishes, or is passed, and the Line increases.*

Fig. 38, H.

HALT, FACE QUICK, MARCH.

Halt, Front, Quick, March.

Ordinary.

When the obstacle diminishes by degrees, then the divisions will come up into line successively as the ground opens, and the remainder of the column will shift towards the obstacle in the same manner as it before shifted from it. When the second division can come up, it will receive the words *halt, face, march,* and when opposite its ground *halt, front, march,* when up in line, then *ordinary.*

But if the ground is of such a nature as to allow the complete extension at once into line, the whole column will perform it by the deployment of the close column on the front division, which is then part of the line.

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§ 134. *If the Battalion fires during the passing of an Obstacle either in Front or Rear.*

When the battalion is advancing, and obliged to fire, it will be order-

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HALT. ed to *halt* in the situation it is in; will then execute such firings as are ordered, and advances again.

HALT, FRONT. If retiring, and pressed by the enemy, the part in line will *halt, front,* and the part in column will move on till the last division arrives in line, and then *halt, front.* The firings ordered will be performed; and when it is found convenient again to retire, the whole will *face about.* The part in line will *march,* and the columns will also be put in motion, when the line arrives at their head, and the whole again proceed as at first.

RIGHT ABOUT FACE.

MARCH.

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§ 135. *A Battalion advancing, may, under certain circumstances, pass Obstacles by Files.*

Fig. 38, L. In this case the interrupted division or divisions, will receive orders to one or both flanks, and follow closely in files the part of the battalion which has not been broken. The filing will increase as the obstacle increases, and as it diminishes, files will successively move up to their proper place and form again. Let it be observed, that the same rules for doubling in column applies to doubling in file.

Demonstration of Fig. 38. The movements in Fig. 38, are as follow: A, is a battalion, and part of the wings of two others, formed in line, they meet with obstacles as they advance. B, three divisions on the left of the battalion

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have doubled. C, one division on the right has doubled. D, a central obstacle presenting itself, three divisions on the right and one of the centre; also two of the left and three of the centre have doubled. E, one of the right has moved into line, and one more of the centre has doubled; also one of its left has moved up into line. F, the whole, except the three left has moved into line. G, the three left divisions remain in column, and two on the right, and three in the centre have again doubled. H, the whole except one division on the right have arrived in open ground, and moved up into line. The positions at I, K, L, M, shew the passage of obstacles by the impeded parts filing around them; at N, the line is again formed complete. O, P, shews the passage of woods by the filing of companies. At Q, all obstacles are passed, and the true line again resumed.

But if the battalion at A, is supposed to retreat instead of advancing, it will then be viewed as having faced about, and performing the same movements to the rear, with the rear rank in front, and the positions of the columns will be the same as above.

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§ 136. *When the Battalion advances or retires by half Battalion and Fires.*

Left wing
- Halt.
- March.

Rt. wing
- Halt.
- Ready.
- Take aim.
- Fire.
- March.

Left Wing, Halt, Ready, &c.

If the battalion is on the march advancing, the left wing will *halt* when ordered, and the right wing continues its march 15 paces; and at that instant the word *march* will be given to the left, the right at the same time is ordered to *halt*; to fire and load, and the left marches past till the right wing is loaded and shouldered; the word march being given, the other wing *halts*, *fires*, &c. they thus proceed alternately.

Right Wing, Halt, Front.

Left Wing, Halt, Front.

Rt. wing
- Ready.
- Take aim.
- Fire.
- About face
- March.

Left Wing, Halt, Front.

Left wing
- Ready.
- Take aim.
- Fire,
- &c.

If the battalion is on the march retiring, the right wing will be ordered to *halt*, *front*, and when the left one has gained fifteen paces, and received the word *halt*, *front*, the right wing will be ordered to *fire*; load, face about, and march fifteen paces beyond the left, there receives the word *halt*, *front*; on which the left wing is ordered to *fire*; and in the same manner proceed alternately with every dispatch in loading.

One colour remains on the inward flank of each half battalion, to which the men continue to look for their direction in movement, a sergeant advances six paces before the colour as a direction. If the ranks are two deep both will fire; if three deep, the third rank remains shouldered in reserve. Each half battalion must have a commander in the above movements.

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§ 137. *When the Battalion retires by alternate Companies in two Lines.*

Right Companies, Halt, Front. Left Companies, Halt, Front.

Rt. companies { About Face, March, Halt, front

Left company. { About face, March, Halt, Front.

The right companies *halt, front*, the left retire in line a given number of paces, and *halt, front*, on which the right companies retire the same number of paces beyond the left, and *halt, front.*

In this manner they proceed till the battalion is ordered to form.—One colour remains on the flank of the company to which it belongs, and thus directs the movement of each line; a sergeant will advance six paces before it, during the march. Officers are on the inward flanks of their companies; each line must have a separate commander; distances must be preserved from each colour, &c.

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§ 138. *When the Battalion forms a Square or Oblong.*

CAUTION. FORM SQUARE.

The explanatory *caution* being given for forming the square, the respective companies or divisions will immediately stand prepared to carry the orders into execution, viz.

COMPANIES INWARDS FACE.

1st. The 4th and 5th battalion companies stand fast, and the rest of the battalion faces inwards and disengages the heads of companies to the rear; the colours and their coverers fall back; the 4th company will close to the left to fill up

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QUICK, MARCH. their place. On the word *quick, march,* the 3d, 2d, and 1st companies place themselves in open column behind the 4th; the 6th, 7th, and 8th, place themselves in open column behind the 5th; the grenadiers and light company, place themselves in the rear (if it is thought necessary to have the front rank outermost, they will countermarch) at the same time that the 2d and 3d, and the 6th and 7th, wheel outwards. Thus the square is formed of the eight battalion companies, with the grenadiers and light company in reserve in the rear, ready to be applied according to circumstances. Or, the battalion may be thrown into the oblong by the 3d, 2d, and 1st forming the right side of the square; the 6th, 7th, and 8th, the left; and the grenadiers and light company the rear.

Halt, Front,

Outwards Wheel.

Halt, Dress.

CAUTION. 2d. *The square or oblong, will be formed by the 4th and 5th battalion companies standing fast;* the rest of the battalion will wheel backwards the eighth of the circle, on its inward flank. They will then *march* to complete the square, each wheeling when it comes to its ground, and then fronting.—The front rank in this manner will be outwards on each side of the square. The commanding officer, colours, coverers, drums, &c. &c. will be within the square; also the

FORM SQUARE.

COMPANIES BACKWARDS WHEEL.

QUICK MARCH.

Halt, Dress.

RIGHT ABOUT FACE, MARCH.

Halt, Front, Dress.

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battalion guns, which may be shifted to where they may be most useful.

3d. The square or oblong may be formed when the battalion is in motion in line, by the 4th and 5th companies continuing the march; the 3d, 2d, and 1st, and 6th, 7th, and 8th, facing inwards, and following on the flanks in files; the grenadiers and light company continue the march till they meet; the whole will then be ordered to *halt, outwards face*, and the square or oblong will have gained the length of itself from where it began to form.

CAUTION. THE SQUARE WILL MOVE TO FRONT, REAR, RIGHT OR LEFT, MARCH.

Fig. 37, A.

4th. *When the square or oblong is to march by any one face.* The side which is to lead will be announced; the colours then move up behind its centre, the opposite side faces about, and the flank sides wheel outwards by subdivisions, so as to stand each in open column. The square marches, with two sides in line by their centre, and two sides in open column of subdivisions, which cover and dress to their inward flanks, and carefully preserve their distances. When the square halts, and ordered to front, the subdivisions in column will wheel back and form the sides, and the side which faced about, will again face outwards.

HALT, FRONT, SQUARE.

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THE SQUARE WILL MARCH BY THE RIGHT FRONT ANGLE.

Fig. 37, B.

MARCH. HALT. FRONT, SQUARE.

5th. *When the perfect square is to march in a diagonal direction by one of its angles,* the caution will be given by which angle; the two sides that form it stand fast; the other two face about. The whole will then wheel up one eighth of the circle, two opposite sides to the right, and the other two opposite sides to the left, and are thus parallel to each other, and perpendicular to the direction which they are to move; the pivots are now on the sides of the square; each side being in echellon, and the colours behind the leading angle; the whole will be put in march, each division carefully preserving the distances they wheeled at, and also from the flank to which they wheeled. At the word *halt,* the whole will halt on the foot advanced, and the distances will be regulated, if necessary. On the word *front, square,* the whole wheel back into square, and the two sides that require it face about outwards. When the oblong marches by one of its angles, its subdivisions perform the same, wheeling up each the one eighth of the circle; but its direction will not be in the diagonal of the oblong, but in that of a square.

6th. *When the square on the march halts and fronts to repulse an attack of cavalry.* The front rank (will fire if ordered, or remain in reserve) immediately kneels on

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the right knee; placing the butt of the firelock firm against it, the left foot being kept firm, the left elbow will rest on that knee, and the bayonet presented to the charge in an angle of 45 degrees, the piece being held firm with both hands. The two rear ranks fire standing, either by companies, subdivisions, sections, files, or by ranks successively. In whatever order the square is directed to fire, the one will fire when the other has loaded; but should the battalion be formed two deep, the front rank will remain kneeled, and the rear rank fire by files: when the drum beats the signal for the charge, the ranks standing charge bayonets as directed in the 34th article of the manual, the second rank considered as the first, the front having kneeled. By command, the front rank will rise, and the whole come to the half-cock position, prime, load and shoulder; when the drum beats the preparative, the whole prepare for the charge, but if the charge is not made the drum will beat the cease firing, and the front rank rises; the whole may come to the shouldered arms, and the square may move.

Fig. 36, A.

7th. *When the battalion is marching in open ground where it is necessary to be prepared against the attacks of cavalry.* The easiest method of managing it, will be in column of companies at quarter

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distance, a named company in the centre being ordered to keep an additional distance of two files; the column being ordered to *halt and form the square*, the first company falls back to the second, the last closes to the one before it, the whole by subdivisions take one pace to the flanks, leaving an interval of two paces in the centre; two officers with their sergeants place themselves in each of the front and rear intervals; two officers and their sergeants place themselves in each flank interval; a sergeant takes the place of each flank front rank man of the first division, and of each flank rear rank man of the last division; all the other officers and sergeants, the four displaced men, &c. are in the centre of the companies which are to form the flank faces; the two centre companies being told off, each in four sections, *wheel* up by sections, viz. two to the right and two to the left; the two rear companies closing up and facing outwards at the same time; the corner sections close to their front ones, which dress up with the extremities of the front and rear companies. The whole thus stand faced outwards, formed six deep with each face of the square commanded by two officers and their sergeants; and all the other officers, sergeants, &c. are in the void space

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in the centre. The mounted field officers must pass into the centre, by the rear face opening from its centre two paces, and closing again.

On being ordered, the two first ranks round the square will kneel and slope their bayonets, as before directed; the two next ranks will fire standing, and the two inner ranks will remain in reserve; the file coverers behind each officer will give back, and enable him to stand in the third rank.

When the column is to resume the march, the sections that closed up, fall back to their distances; the others then wheel back into column; the officers, &c. take their respective places; and when the column is put in motion the companies that closed take their usual distance.

Here observe, unless the companies are at least twenty file, they cannot be divided into four sections; if under that, they must be told off into three sections; the column must then march at the distance of a section, and in forming the square, the two outward sections will wheel up, but the centre one will stand fast, and afterwards divide itself into right and left, will form a fourth rank to the others. When the column is to be resumed, the out-

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ward sections wheel back, and the rear of the centre one will easily recover their places, but as to other circumstances, they remain in the same order as before.

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PART IV.

THE INSPECTION OR REVIEW OF A BATTALION OF INFANTRY.

THE battalion assembles on its parade, is told off, and marches to its review ground in column of companies or subdivisions—marches into the alignment by companies—forms in close order—takes open order as directed in the formation of the battalion.

On this occasion the colonel and lieutenant-colonel are at the head of the colours on foot; at all other times they are mounted—the whole being dressed to the right the general is awaited, and to be received with the compliments due to his rank, according to the regulations for military honours.

RECEIVING THE GENERAL.

PRESENT, ARMS. When he presents himself before the centre, fifty or sixty paces distant, the men will present arms, and the officers salute, so as to drop the point of their swords with the last motion of presented arms; the music will play, and all the drums will beat; but the colours will only salute such persons as are entitled to that honour, by regulations.

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SHOULDER, ARMS. — When the men shoulder arms, the officers will recover their swords with the last motion.

The general will then go to the right—the whole will remain steady, while he passes along the front of the battalion, without paying any further compliments; the music will play and the drums will beat, until he returns to the right flank, by passing along the rear.

REAR RANKS, TAKE CLOSE ORDER, MARCH. — While the general is proceeding to place himself in the front, the colonel and lieutenant colonel will mount on horseback in the rear of the centre, and the ranks will be ordered to close.

MARCHING PAST IN ORDINARY TIME.

COMPANIES, ON YOUR LEFT, BACKWARDS WHEEL, MARCH. *Halt, Dress,* MARCH. — The pioneers and music will be ordered to the right; and the adjutant will ascertain the exact points for the several wheelings, so that in marching past, the right of the divisions will pass within four paces of the general. The caution will then be given that the battalion will break into column of companies, the right in front.

Halt, left, Wheel. Halt, Dress, March. — The several companies as they arrive at the first angle of the ground, will wheel successively; the same on the second angle, which brings them on the line on which they pass the general.—The leader of each company, when he has passed the wheeling point six

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Eyes, Right. paces, will change quickly by the rear of his company to the right flank, and order *eyes right.*

Rear Rank, Take Open Order. The leading company, and each successively, as it arrives within fifty paces of the general, will order *rear ranks, take open order*, the officers will move into the front, and their places will be occupied by their sergeants.

In marching past in open order, the sergeant on the right flank of each company is answerable for the preservation of the true wheeling distance from the front rank of the company preceding him, and the leading officer must invariably preserve his distance of three paces before the right of his company; the rank of officers dress to him; the eyes of the whole are turned to the right, and they divide the ground so as to cover the front of the company.—Supernumerary sergeants are three paces in rear of their respective companies.

The music will begin to play immediately after the leading company has made the second wheel; they as well as the pioneers, must regulate their march by the head of the column.

The colonel will be at the head of the grenadiers, with the major on his left a little behind him. The music will be in two ranks six paces before the colonel; the pioneers six paces before the music; also in two ranks, with the corporal who gives the time for exercise at their head to lead them. The drummers and fifers will be on the left flank of their several companies.

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The lieutenant colonel will be in the rear, with the adjutant a little behind him on his left; but in case of absence of the colonel, the lieutenant colonel will take his place, the major will take the place of the lieutenant-colonel, &c.

The colours will be three paces behind the fourth battalion company, covered by their sergeants; the sergeant major will preserve order and regulate distances, all the officers being otherwise employed in the salute. The staff-officers do not march past nor salute.

The officers must prepare to salute when they arrive at their proper distance from the general; each company successively, when within six, and when ten paces past him, will recover their swords —the march must be continued with regularity during the salute, and by no means impeded by officers in saluting.

When the commanding officer has saluted at the head of the battalion, he will place himself near the general, and will remain there till the rear has marched past. The drums of each company will roll when the officer of the company to which they respectively belong, salutes.

Rear Rank, Take Close Order. — After having past the general thirty paces, the officers commanding companies, will successively close ranks, and each individual will resume the post he held when the column was first put in motion.

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HALT, SUPPORT ARMS. *Halt, Left Wheel.* *Halt, Dress, March.* QUICK, MARCH. — Each company will wheel successively when opposite the ground where the left of the battalion stood; the rear having passed the general, music ceases, arms may be supported, and the quick march will commence without music, or any instrument to measure time.

MARCHING PAST IN QUICK TIME.

In marching past the general in quick time, and at close order, officers do not salute, or pay any compliment, but attend to preserve the proper intervals between the companies: the leaders shift to the right in the same manner as when passing in ordinary time, six paces after the wheel which brings him on the line; and when he has passed the general thirty paces, he resumes his proper pivot flank. The battalion officers are in the same places as when marching past in ordinary time. Drummers, pioneers and music, which last begins to play immediately on entering the line of passing, continue to march at the head of the column. Officers must always carry their swords with the back against the hollow of the right shoulder.

Halt, Left Wheel. *Halt, Dress.* *Forwards.* — The column now makes three several wheels, viz. at the point where the left of the battalion first stood; at the point where the first wheel was made; and at the point where the second wheel was made which places it on the line of passing the general.

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CARRY ARMS.

When the leading company comes within a few paces of the last wheel, the whole will be ordered to *carry arms*, and on the wheel being completed, the music will begin to play.

Eyes Left.
Halt, Left Wheel.
Halt, Dress, March.
HALT, ORDINANY TIME, MARCH.
Halt, Left Wheel.
Halt, Dress, March.

When the several companies have passed the general thirty paces, officers successively shift to their proper pivot flank, and order, dress to the left, and the companies will successively wheel when opposite the ground where the left of the battalion stood. But before entering on their original ground, the column will be ordered to *halt*, in order to take up the *ordinary march*, for the purpose of moving on an alignment. When at the point on the left of the alignment, the leader of each company will order, *halt, left wheel; halt dress march.*

FORMING THE LINE.

HALT.
LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE, MARCH.
Halt, Dress.

When the leading company arrives at the point where its pivot is to be placed, the whole receive the word *halt*, the pivots will be corrected if necessary; also the distances, if not correctly preserved; the column will then wheel up into line, and the music and pioneers go to their posts behind the centre; the whole will then be on their original ground, and in the first position.

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Should the manual and platoon exercises now be required, the commanding officer will give a caution to that effect; he will then go to the rear of the battalion and the major will advance to the front; when the ranks are opened, bayonets unfixed, and arms shouldered, he will order the officers and colours to take their posts of exercise in the rear, by facing to the right and marching through the several intervals occupied by the sergeants, and when at three paces beyond the rear ranks, they will halt and receive the word front—The colonel, lieutenant colonel, adjutant, music, pioneers, supernumerary sergeants, drummers, &c. are at their posts in the rear as when the battalion is formed at close order, the sergeant major taking post behind the third battalion company.

The major proceeds with the manual, and the sergeant coverers remain in the front rank to preserve the places for their platoon officers, and continue there steady, during the officers' absence.

For the platoon exercise the ranks will be closed and every individual takes his place, the same as when the battalion is at close order. The major then proceeds with the platoon exercise in the manner prescribed; each rank makes ready according to its situation of front, centre, rear; after firing they load, shoulder, &c.—When the manual and platoon exercises are finished, the major goes to his post in the rear, and the commander of the battalion will order to *prime and load* with cartridge; then the ordered movements will commence.

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MOVEMENTS—PLATE 16.

1. *On a Rear Division*	Form close column of companies behind the right.	sec. 103	The column marches off in quick time about 20 paces to the right, and begins to deploy into line on the rear division without halting. The commanding officer of the battalion must give the word for each division to halt front, form.
	Form close column of grand divisions.	111	
	Face and march to the right.	105	
	Deploy into line on the rear division.	114	
2. *On a Front Division.*	Form close column of companies on the left, the right in front.	103	The column will march off quick 20 or 30 paces to the left, and begin to deploy on the front division, without halting. The commanding officer of the battalion must give the words for each division to halt, front, form.
	Form close column of grand divisions.	111	
	Face, and march to the left.	105	
	Deploy on a front division.	113	
3. *On a Central Division.*	Form close column of companies on a central company, either flank in front, and facing to the rear.	104	The close column is now formed facing to the rear. It will then countermarch each division so as to return to its proper front. In the central deployment, the company officers give the words halt, front, &c.
	Countermarch each division in close column.	100	
	Deploy on any central named company.	115	

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4. *Changes of Position in Open Column.*	Wheel back into open column of companies, the right in front.	sec. 77	Thus the battalion enters the alignment at an intermediate point, in an oblique direction to its former position, and on which it is to form by the wheel of the quarter circle.
	March forward 40 paces.	79	
	The leading company will wheel on a new oblique direction and halt when the 3d or 4th company enters it.	89	
	The rear companies file into column.	89	
	The whole wheel up into line.	82	
5. *A Wing thrown Back.*	The left company will be wheeled backwards, parallel to the original position. All the rest of the companies wheel into echellon, and march to the rear forming on the left company.	125	The whole of the companies wheel back at the same time, but the left company must wheel twice the number of paces that the others do. For the greater convenience of the subsequent movement the battalion is to retire 60 paces and then front.
	The whole will retire 50 or 60 paces, halt and front.	130	

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6. *Countermarch and Change of Position.*	Wheel back into open column, the right in front,	sec. 77	When the battalion has countermarched by files and standing with its left in front, the column will close in quick time.—The square will then be formed, and close column again reformed. The column opens out from its rear division in quick time, and halts. The countermarch from the rear to the front is in ordinary time. Thus when the line is formed it will be considerably to the right of the general, and with its rear to him.	
	Companies will countermarch by files.	100		
	March in column 20 paces, the column will close to the leading division.	118		
	Form square, and prepare for firing. Reform in close column.	138		
	Open out to open column from the rear and halt.	118		
	Change the head of the column of companies from the rear to the front by the countermarch, halt & front.	101		
	The column moves on and halts. Wheel up into line.	——		
7.	Countermarch by files on the centre of the battalion.	98	This will bring back the battalion to its original front.	

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8. *March in Open Column.*	Form open column behind the left company, which will be put in march when the 3d company has obtained its place in column.	sec. 85	The companies that are filing must incline towards the head of the column, and successively front at their wheeling distances, which are as usual ascertained by their sergeants, then take up the ordinary step and follow in column. When the column is on the march the whole subdivisions double at once, and again move up at one word of command.
	The right subdivisions will double—or diminish front.	72	
	The right subdivision, will form up, or increase *front*.	73	
	The column will halt and correct pivots.	——	
	Wheel up into line.—		
9. *Echellon Change of Position.*	Wheel back into open column the left in front.	77	The line will thus be formed oblique from open column on a central company, by the march in echellon.
	The third company will wheel the 8th of the circle, and each of the others 3-16ths of the circle.	126	
	Form line on the third company by the march in echellon.	127	
10 *Change of Position.*	The left company will wheel up the eighth of the circle, and each of the others one 16th, and form line by the echellon march.	127	Thus the line changes position to the front on the left company, by the march in echellon.

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11 *Change of Position.*	The battalion will face to the right, and march in file sixty paces.	sec. 29	The column of companies is formed by the rear men of each moving up quick to the left of their leaders, and of each other; the officers then move to the pivot flanks, and instantly correct them on the march. The column will halt when the colours are opposite the general.
	Form column of companies on the march.	——	
	Halts. Wheels up into line, except the light company which quickly files to the right, and forms in rear of the colours.	——	
12 *Retreat in Line.*	The battalion will retire fifty paces.—Halt, front and fire twice, by companies from centre to flanks.	130	The light company will be previously subdivided, and prepared to act in the retreat by alternate companies; by being divided in the intervals of the first line, retire with it, and change to the second line whenever it becomes the advanced one. When the whole halts and fronts, it resumes its place on the left.
	Retire by alternate companies in two lines 150 paces; each retreat 30 paces.	137	
	Form line. Retire in line 30 paces: halt and front.		
13 *March to the Flank in Echellon.*	Companies wheel —— paces to the right.	119	When the word wheel back into line is given, the pivot flanks mark time and the divisions wheel. The instant the battalion is formed, the commander will give the word forwards, for the whole to advance by the colours, and if any irregularity appear, it must be immediately corrected.
	March in echellon two hundred and fifty paces.	120	
	Wheel back on the march into a parallel line.	121	
	Forwards one hundred paces. Halt.	——	
	Fire three rounds by companies from flanks to centre.	——	

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If the battalion has hitherto been formed in rank and file, it will now form three deep; if the companies are not less than ten files each, or the companies of the battalion average ten files at least, to be equally divided.

14	*Movements in the Square.*	sec.	
	Form square.—— March the square by the left angle of the front, 50 paces. Halt form square.		The square is first formed by the echellon march of companies.
	March the square by the left face. Halt.		After the march by the left face, the square will form when opposite the general.
	Form square.	128	For the firings in square, see the 6th article of sec. 138.
	March the square by the rear face 50 paces, halt.		The line will form by the echellon wheel and march of companies.
	Form square.		On the orders being given to form the line, the light company places itself 2 deep in 2 divisions ten paces behind the 2 centre companies.
	Fire in square by companies.		
	Form the line.		

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15	*Retiring and Filing to the Rear.*		sec.	When the line has passed the light company about 20 paces, that company will extend to cover the centre of the battalion 50 paces distance and when the column halts to form, the light company will pass through and beyond it. The companies must file quick to the rear. The battalion will form line at the extremity of its ground; the light company will be 30 paces in its rear.
		Retire into line 100 paces,	130	
		File by companies from the proper right. —— Halt in open column the right in front,	87	
		Wheel up into line.	——	
16	*Advancing, Filing, and changing to the Front.*			The light company form extended 60 paces before the centre, and preserve that distance while the battalion advances. When the column halts to form, the light company will pass quick to the rear and assemble half of it behind each flank and preserve the movement with the flank companies till after the charge bayonets. The alternate half battalions, fire all ranks standing.
		Advance in line 50 paces.	128	
		File from the right of companies to the front 50 paces—halt in open column the left in front, & wheel up into line.	87	
		Advance in line 50 paces.	128	
		Advance by alternate half battalions, and fire four times.	136	

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17 *Advance and Charge in Line.*	Form line—advance 30 paces, and fire a volley. Advance 20 paces, and fire a volley. Charge bayonets, 50 paces—Halt—Prime and load.	sec.	Immediately after the volley, bayonets are ported, the battalion will advance firm by the centre. At the word quickest step, the front rank comes down to the charge.—And at the word Halt, prepare to prime & load; the light company issues from behind the flanks, pursues, returns, and assembles on the left of battalion.
18 *Retiring in Line.*	Retire in line 100 paces. Retire by half battalions alternately, & fire four times. Retire in line 50 paces—Halt & front.	136	The alternate half battalions fire, the 2 front ranks standing.
19 *Advancing in Line.*	Advance in line 75 paces—Halt—fire once—Oblique to right and left. Advance in line, 25 paces—Halt—fire two vollies, and port arms at the last one, half cock, open ranks, and advance 50 paces—Halt & salute the general.	128	In the obliquing and in the vollies, the front rank will kneel.—The music will occasionally play, and the drums will roll, when the line is advancing. The music will also play when advancing at open ranks.

With such other movements as may be required at the time.

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N. B. The foregoing plan of review is nearly the same as the one now practised by His Britannic Majesty's forces, and generally esteemed as the best.

The first column, or margin, shews the number and nature of the movements; the second shews the execution; the figures in braces refer to the sections where the movements are described at large, and the last column explains some circumstances of execution.

In order to a more perfect understanding of the Inspection or Review, the following articles should be particularly attended to:

1st. That the intention of performing some of the most essential infantry movements, are not only instructive, but they enable the *Inspector General* to report more minutely, and compare the performance of each battalion with the great leading points of discipline. And where deficiencies appear, he will point them out to the commander, and also specify them in his report.

2d. That the original formation of the battalion being established, the marches must be made with accuracy, at the required time and length of pace, and upon such objects as shall be given.—But it is not intended that the number of paces mentioned in the several movements should be prescribed; they are only supposed to be such as will give the intended relative situations, and if the ground will admit an extension of the march it is to be preferred, especially to the front and rear.

3d. That no improper pauses be made betwixt

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the connected parts of the same movement, but facility given by the timely preparing and giving the detached necessary points for formation.

4th. That the proper distances in column and echellon are preserved at all times. The wheelings justly made in the prescribed manner.—The march in line, uniformly steady without opening, closing, or floating. The march in file, close, firm and without lengthening out. The formations into line, are made without false openings or the necessity of after corrections.—The officers give the required aid, with quickness and precision in changes of situation, exact in their own personal movements, giving their commands in a loud, decided and pointed manner. Also that hurry and unnecessary delays in all the movements are equally avoided.

5th. In all the firings, the loading must be quick, the levelling just, and the officers exact and animated in their commands.—In firing by wings, the companies of each wing carry on their fire without regard to the other wing, whether it fires from the flanks to the centre, or from the centre to the flanks. If there are five companies in the wing, two pauses will be made betwixt the fire of the one, and the make ready of the other. If there are four companies in the wing, three pauses must be made betwixt the fire of each, and the make ready of the succeeding one, in order to give sufficient time for the first company to have loaded again, and shouldered at the time the last company fires; this will establish proper intervals between

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each. The pause is the 60th part of a minute, and always used betwixt the words *make ready, take aim, fire.*

6th. In firing by wings, one wing will make ready, the instant the other is shouldering.—If by grand divisions, three pauses will be made betwixt the fire of one division, and the make ready of the other.

In firing by files, when the right file takes aim, the next makes ready and so on—after the first fire, each man as he loads comes to a recover; the rear rank files must have their eyes on the front rank men, and come to the take aim with them; the file again fires without waiting for any other. —The greatest care must be taken by the officers in the rear, that the rear ranks are well locked up in the firings, and that they do not fall back in loading.

7th. The advance of the battalion should always instantly suceeed the forming of the line, and while on the march it will be apprized of the nature of the required firing; when it arrives at the point, on the word halt, the firing ought immediately to commence so that no improper delay may take place.—The line, if retiring, will halt, front at one word of command, and instantly commences firing, having also been apprized during its march of the nature of the firing.

8th. After the march and halt of the battalion in front, in general company or platoon firing should begin from the centre, and not from the flanks, but in cases of successive formations, &c. it may begin

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from whatever division arrives and halts first on its ground.

9th. When two or more battalions are inspected or exercised together, they will be formed in one line with the ordered interval.—They will receive the general, march past and perform the same movements as prescribed for the single battalion, unless on some occasions they may be ordered to form columns of battalions, for the purpose of facilitating some of the movements.

10th. When the line of two or more battalions is marching past in column of companies, it must not occupy a greater space of ground than when it originally wheeled into column; that order is not to be broken or lengthened out, nor must artillery or other bodies increase the distances for their own partial appearance; the battalion guns will march two abreast.—The music of each battalion may play in passing, but they must continue to march on, not form opposite the general. Officers will not salute in marching unless particularly ordered so to do.

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PART V.

OF ARTILLERY.

THE improvements of *artillery* are as great as those of other arms, and in all regular military establishments it now makes a principal part. From being unwieldy and uncertain in its effects, it is now become numerous, light and transportable, calculated to accompany the movements of infantry, worked with ease and dexterity, and it has often turned the scale of victory.

There are but few places capable of long resisting the improved modes of attack, where the heavy and unremitting fire of a well directed artillery is applied; and in the field, where battles are often reduced to affairs of post, its operations are of the greatest importance. But where an enfilading fire can be obtained, (which ought always to be endeavoured) it never fails, if not to turn the scale of victory, at least to prevent a more vigorous resistance from the enemy: this ought to be an essential part of the general's calculations, and every thing which tends to accelerate its motions, and prevent the enemy from gaining the like advantages become circumstances the most desirable.

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It is now customary to attach two field pieces to each regiment or battalion, in most of the European military establishments, and a certain proportion of the regiment instructed in the proper use and manœuvring of them. With respect to the propriety of such a regulation as this, under the present militia establishment of the *United States*, I do not pretend to determine. But this much is evident, we ought to have a certain number of men in each of the States instructed in the use and application of artillery.

The limits of the present work will not allow me to enter minutely into the system of artillery discipline, but should the foregoing system of infantry tactics meet the approbation of the general government, or the community at large, I purpose completing the whole in another volume, comprehending the science, as it relates to artillery, cavalry, and the general movements of the line. At present I am under the necessity, from my proposed plan, to close this volume with a few observations of a general nature, on artillery, and the exercise of the guns.

From the several experiments that have been made lately on guns of the same length and caliber of those used in the late *American war*, it is found that a less weight of metal will answer every thing intended; as it has been also proved, that a smaller quantity of powder will produce as good an effect, without heating the gun to the degree formerly practised; hence the light construction, the easy method now in use by the mi-

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litary nations of Europe, have been adapted for the exercise and movements of all pieces mounted on travelling carriages. Regular fortified garrisons are generally defended by guns mounted on low carriages, in the same manner as ship guns, of which it is not my present intention to treat; nor is it intended at this time, to enter into the descriptions of the several constructions of artillery, the different manner of mounting, with the names of the different parts thereof, and the instruments used, further than I shall have occasion to mention in the exercise of field artillery.

Besides field pieces, which are 6 pounders and under, all guns of a larger caliber, mounted on travelling carriages, are usually termed field artillery, and managed by brigades and regiments well instructed in that exercise; also in the whole of infantry disciplining, the complete use of the musquet or carbine, with the principles of every required movement; likewise in constructing and fortifying posts.

Every piece of field artillery should have a small truck wheel to support the trail when the limbers are taken from it; it would facilitate the movements, but when going to fire, it must be taken away, as shall appear hereafter.

In all campaigns, it is necessary for every army to have a *park*, consisting of a number of guns proportioned to the number of men that is brought into the field. In all marches of route, these guns, with the principal stores, &c. are in the centre; if the body is sufficiently large to be divided into

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brigades, it will have charge of the magazine, and take the name of the centre brigade. Each of the others have their ammunition waggons in the rear, and preceded by a waggon loaded with tools for the pioneers; the two pieces attached to each infantry regiment, march with it in its rear. And when encamped, the park artillery will occupy the centre, unless it is deemed more eligible to take post in some more advantageous position, in order to annoy the enemy, or afford more general protection to the encampment. When an engagement commences, and sometimes before, detachments may be sent out to occupy certain heights, procure an enfilade of the enemy, &c. and sometimes to manœuvre and act with the infantry in every movement. But the battalion guns never leave their general post in column or line, but by special orders from the chief in command.

The practice of using paper cartridges is now almost out of use; they have been found to be inconvenient for several reasons. They were liable to rub and damage considerably on long marches, to burst sometimes in the ramming, especially if the paper got wet or rubbed; but the greatest objection seems to be, that the bottom of the cartridge generally lodged at the breech, often retaining fire, whereby the loader and rammer were exposed to the loss of a hand or an arm, by the cartridge taking fire prematurely; and at all events, they were obliged to use the worm at least every fourth or fifth shot, in order to draw the bottoms likely to close the vent.

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Cartridges have also been made of skin or parchment; these were found not to answer a good end, as the gun, when heated, shrivelled up, the bottom so as to stop the vent, that the priming iron could not remove it.

In all the experiments that have been made on materials for making cartridges, nothing has been found hitherto to answer the end better than flannel (and it is the only thing used at present) because it not only sponges, if thick and woolly, but does not retain fire, and therefore not liable to accidents in loading. Small cartridges may be made of it, in its common pliable state, but for large ones, the flannel should be dipped in strong size, and hung out to dry before using; this will render it stiff and more easily handled in loading, besides, it prevents the dust of the powder from passing through; for without this precaution, when they are large, and contain much powder, they are too pliable, and very inconvenient in putting into the piece.

There is also another considerable improvement used in quick firing, which is, hollowing one side of a piece of wood, fitted to the windage of the piece, so as to receive about one third of the ball, which is fastened to it by two slips of tin crossing each other and nailed to the wood; the cartridge is tied with a small cord to the wood, and then packed in such a manner either in the magazine or ammunition waggon, that they may be as little disturbed as possible until using. Grape shot

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used in field pieces are likewise fixed in the same manner.

Quick matches are also used in quick firing; the easiest and cheapest method of making them is by taking three or four strands of cotton, put them into a kettle with as much water as will cover them, and add a quantity of salt-petre, say one half the weight of the water, and bring it to the boil, take out the cotton, and on a table or a board prepared with pulverized powder, moistened with alcohol, or spirits of wine, roll the strands backwards and forwards, until it is sufficiently wrought into the cotton, then dust them over with pulverized powder, and hang them up to dry.

Port Fires are used sometimes instead of matches; they are either wet or dry. The composition is four parts of salt-petre, one of sulphur, and three of pulverized powder, well mixed and passed through a sieve, then drove into small paper cases, and so kept until used. To make the wet port fire, the above only requires to be wet with oil, and mixed into a paste, then put into paper cases; they are then fit for use.

Tubes used in quick firing are generally made of tin, and sometimes of copper, but that is deemed an unnecessary expence. The tin tube is about two-tenths of an inch diameter, the point somewhat like that of a pen strengthened with solder, so as to pierce the cartridge, with a cup on the top about an inch diameter; the length must be proportioned to the thickness of metal in the vent field; when served, the cup will be close on the

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vent, and the point near the centre of the cartridge. Formerly, a quick match was drawn through the tube, but filling it with fine powder, then moisten it with spirits of wine, or alcohol, and tie a piece of flannel wet with either, over the powder in the cup, as is now more generally used; if the tubes are not designed for immediate use, the spirits used for the flannel might have half its weight of salt-petre dissolved in it, by which means the flannel will take fire as quick as the powder.

ARTILLERY EXERCISE.

A piece of field artillery commonly requires thirteen men, one of which must be the bombardier. All the commissioned officers ought to understand the art of gunnery, so as to give the piece the first elevation, and proper directions after the first shot; the men are to be numbered, 1, 2, 3, 4, &c. no matrosses being required, six men to each drag-rope are generally sufficient for the movement of the gun, who all take their turn at the different stations in the exercise.

No. 1, sponges the gun, standing on the right side of the muzzle, his right foot square with it, and his left toe pointed towards the axletree; he enters the sponge, right hand above, thumb extended towards the muzzle, and with it forces the sponge to the breech, turning it twice; pulls out the sponge (then No. 12, who stands upon the left side of the muzzle, facing No. 1, loads with cartridge) with the same hold of the right hand he

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turns the sponge up and shifts his holds, entering the rammer; the back of the right hand will now be under, and the left above, near the butt of the rammer; he rams home with three strokes at most, keeping a firm hold with the right, the body yielding each stroke, and throwing the left hand back towards the wheel of the carriage, pulls the rammer out quickly, shifting the right hand near the butt, and with the left throws it into the hollow of the right shoulder, (sponge up) the right arm extended without constraint, the left horizontally across the breast, at the same time facing to the right, and stepping back to the axletree.—When fired, No. 1 advances with his left foot, squares the right, and extending his hands, the right to the butt, the left to the sponge, he sponges with all possible activity, &c.

No. 2, 3, and 4, take hold of the right drag-rope, dressing by the axletree. At the signal, No. 2, hooks and unhooks.

No. 5, serves the vent, on the right side of the piece, his left toe pointed towards the gun, the right foot square, his left thumb upon the vent, and the fingers extended on the butt; he serves the tube with the right hand, then takes the left foot behind the right, in order to save himself from the wheel in the recoil. Instantly after the fire, he covers the vent with the thumb pressed, &c.

No. 6, stands by the ammunition, about ten paces towards the left; he serves No. 7 with whatever is called for, but must be very cautious for fear of sparks of fire.

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No. 7, supplies No. 12, with cartridges, whose duty is to run between No. 6, and No. 12; his first station is at the end of the axletree with his back to the wheel.

No. 8, fires, standing a little to the left of the bombardier, with his right toe pointed towards the gun, the left foot square in rear of the right, holding the match in his right hand, within six inches of the ground. At the word fire, he advances the left foot one pace, fires, &c.

No. 9, 10, and 11, are stationed at the left drag-rope dressed by the axletree. At the signal, No. 11, hooks and unhooks, &c.

No. 12, as before mentioned, loads the gun, his right toe pointed towards the axletree, his left towards the right of No. 1, directly facing him during the time of sponging and ramming, their faces to the left, steps back to the axletree taking the time from No. 1, both in stepping back and advancing. If the gun is large, when loading with ball cartridge, he will assist No. 1, in ramming.

No. 13, is either a commissioned or non-commissioned officer, who traverses, elevates and gives the word of command in absence of his superior officers. After the gun is brought properly to bear on the object he will occasionally fall into the routine of numbers, in order that each man may be sufficiently practised in the whole duty of the gun. His proper station is by the traverse; in firing he lets it go and steps one pace to the left; immediately after the fire he steps forwards, seizes the traverse in his right hand, &c.

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When the officer of the gun intends to change the numbers, he will give the word *change* in a firm, decided tone, the very instant after the fire: then No. 1, and 12, spring to their places at the muzzle. No. 1, presents No. 12, with the rammer, sponge up, and instantly takes the place of No. 2, No. 12, immediately begins to sponge, &c. No. 2, takes the place of No. 3—No. 3, that of 4, at the end of the right dragrope—No. 4, springs to the place of No. 5, at the vent—No. 5, passes between the traverser and the bombardier to the place of No. 8, and he retires to No. 6, at the ammunition—No. 6, runs to No. 9, who changes to No. 10—No. 11, springs to the place of No. 7, with his back opposite the end of the axletree—No. 7, replaces No. 12, &c.—The change must be made instantaneously, so as no retardment may take place in the firings.

In advancing, the 12 numbers are at the dragropes, parallel with the gun in front. In retiring, they are also parallel with the rear. No. 13 must remain by the traverser, to direct and point the gun. When the drum beats the long roll, the advance will continue while the drum beats: at the preparative, the dragrope men, &c. fall back and dress; then firing is to commence. At the single tap they hook and unhook. At the general, they cease firing.

In retreating, the single flam is the signal; if the flams are frequent, and every fourth accompanied with a short stroke of the right hand, the retreat must be very expeditious, as the danger is then

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imminent. At the single beat they halt and dress. At the preparative, unhook and proceed to fire the instant the single tap is given.

The field pieces attached to battalions, move with and accompany them in every evolution, unless otherwise ordered; the park artillery generally occupy advantageous posts. Battery guns being seldom employed but in defending or assailing regular fortifications, and may be wrought with fewer hands than artillery mounted on travelling carriages, both being exercised in the same manner, and by the same rules.

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TABLE

EXPLAINING

THE SEVERAL FIGURES, MARKS, &c.

IN THE PLATES.

The Positions are in general represented

The First.

Intermediate.

The last.

Dotted Lines, the March of different Bodies.

Pointed Arrows, the direction of the Movement.

The strong Line denotes the Front.

FINIS.

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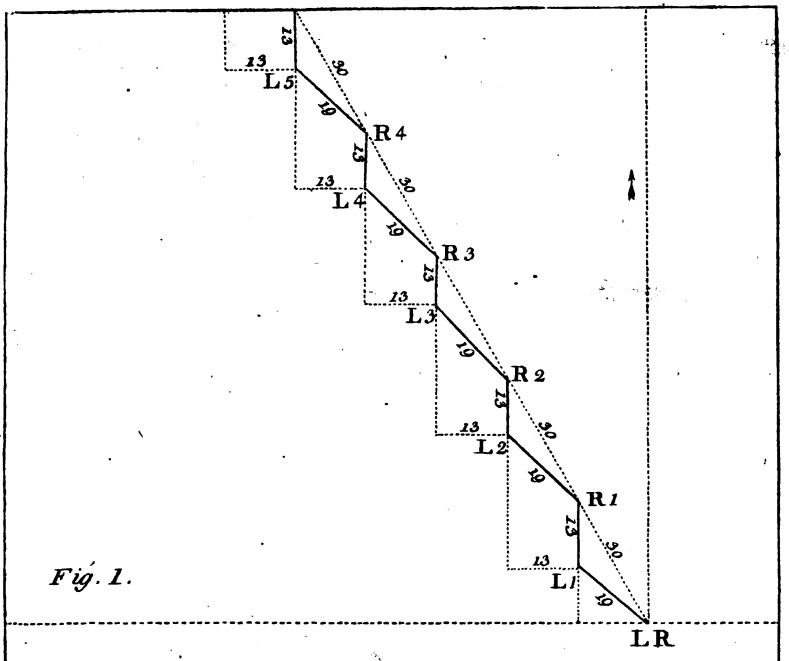

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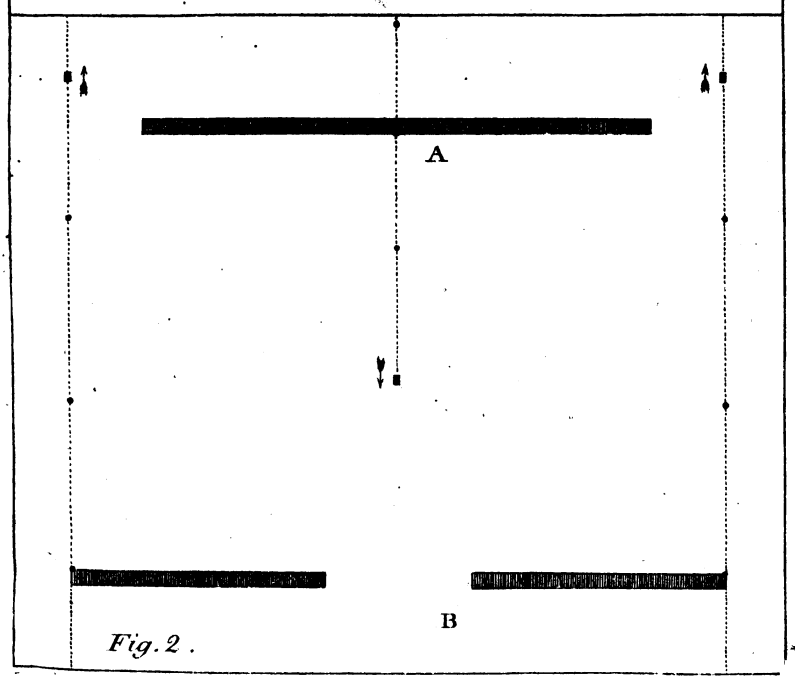

Fig. 2.

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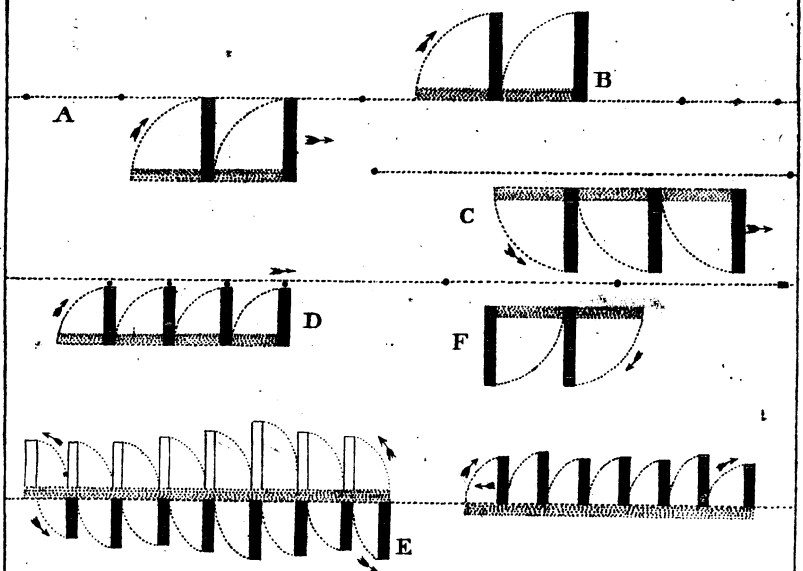

Fig. 3

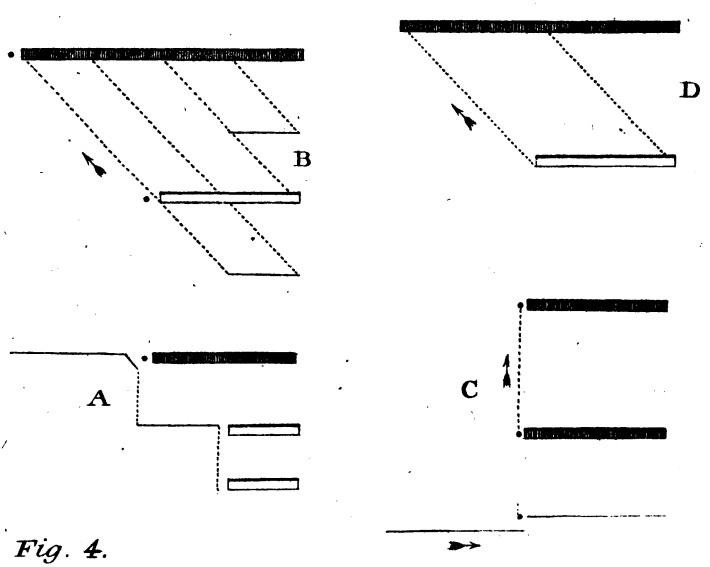

Fig. 4.

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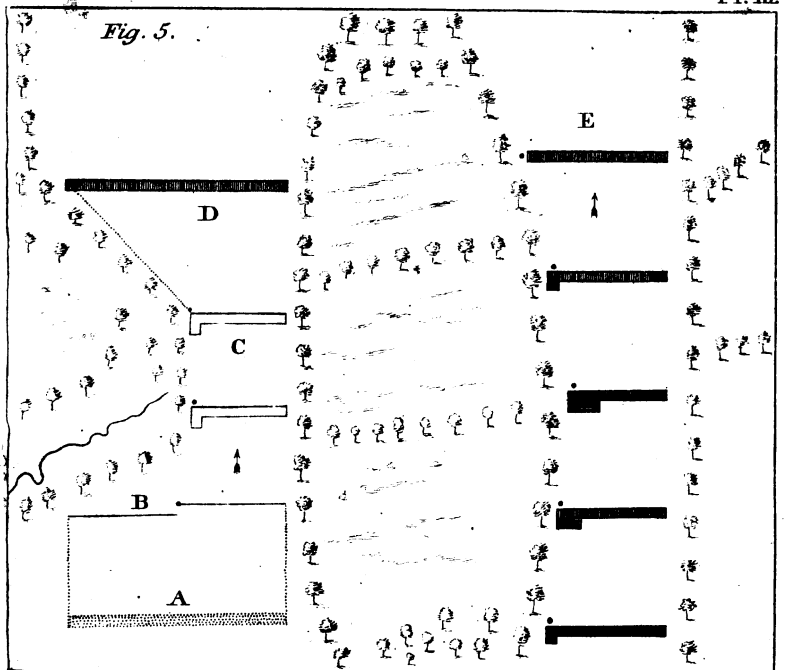
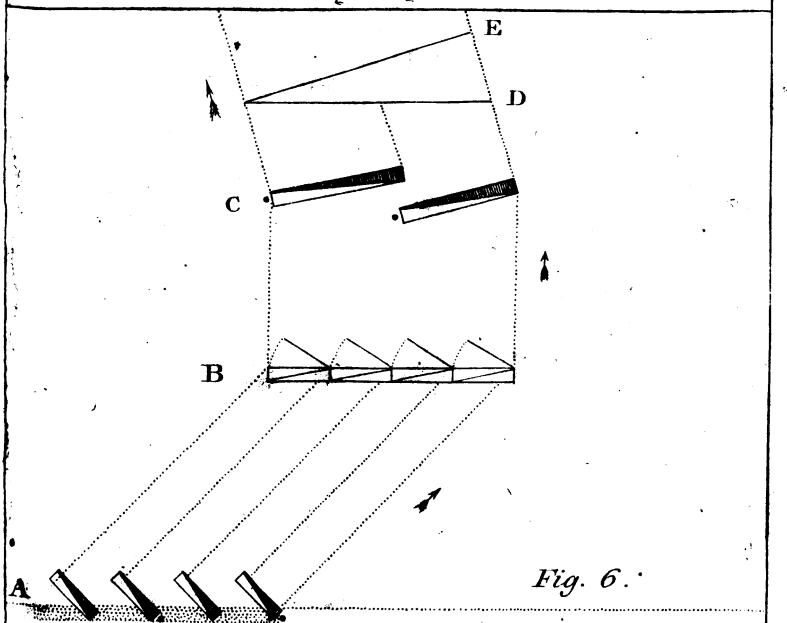
Fig. 5.





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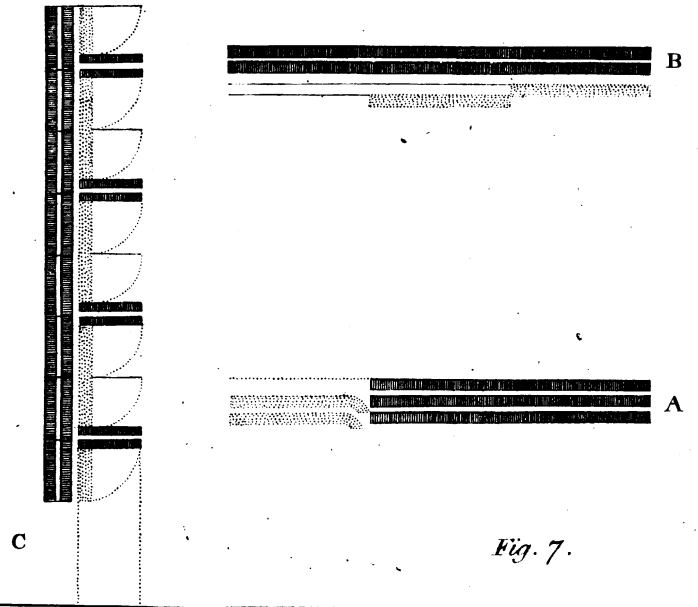

Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

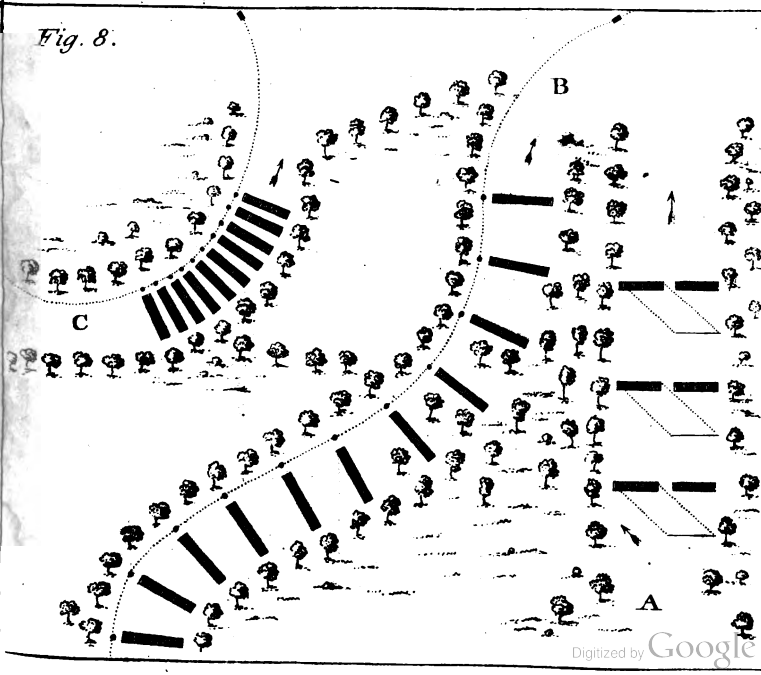

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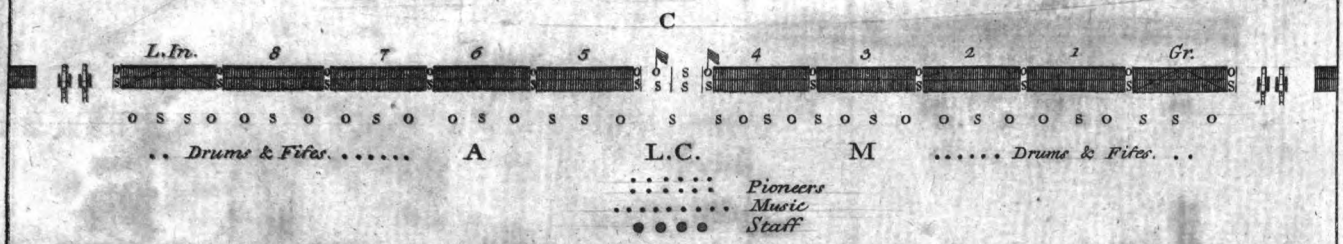
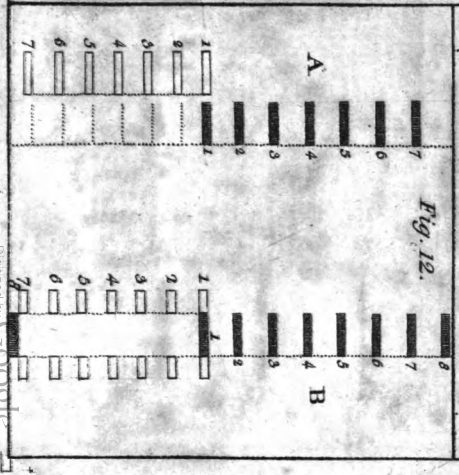
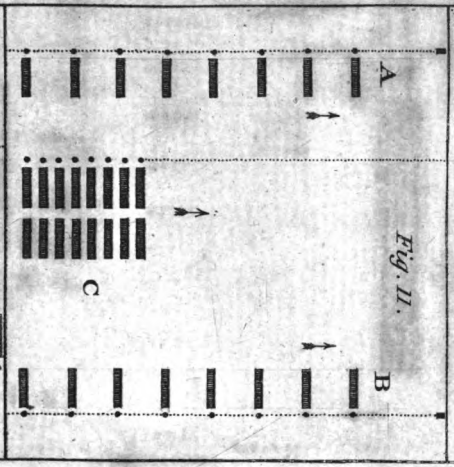
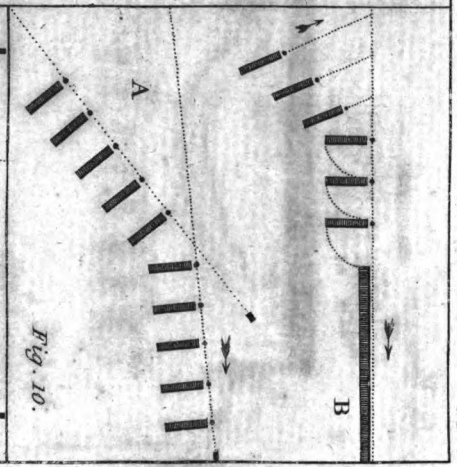
Fig. 9.

Battalion formed in close Order.









Pl. V.

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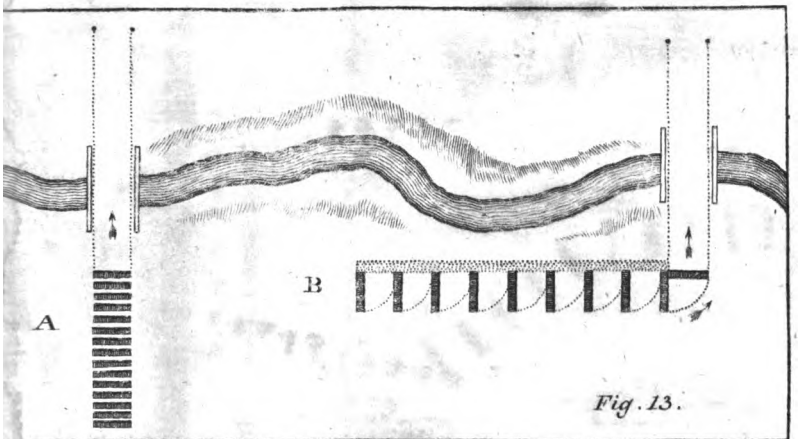
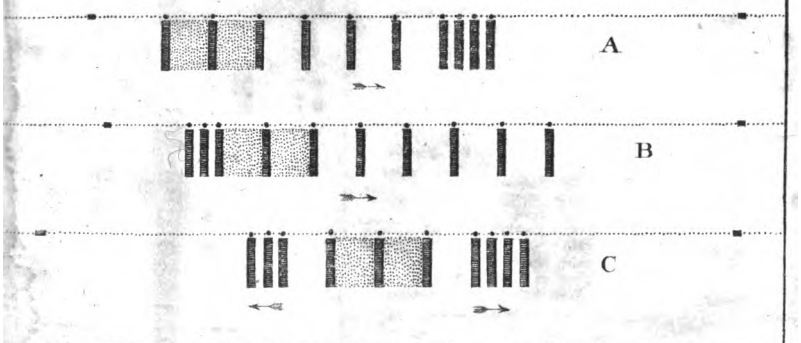


Fig. 13.

Fig. 14.



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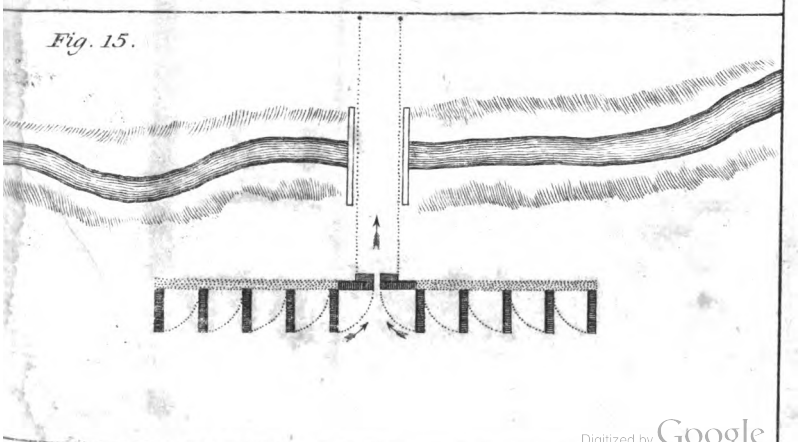

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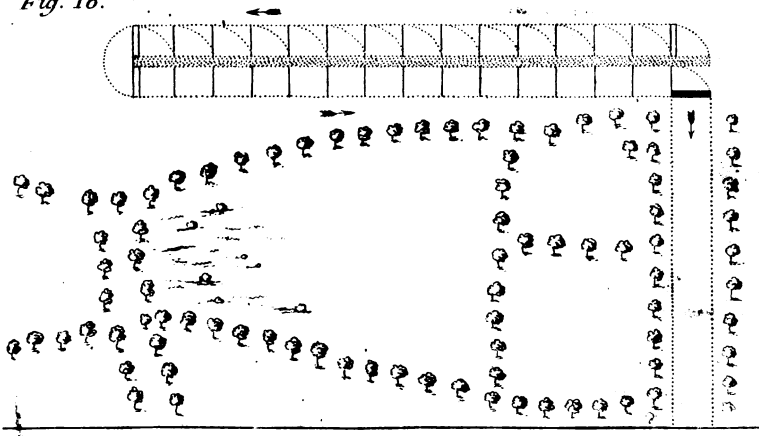
Fig. 16.



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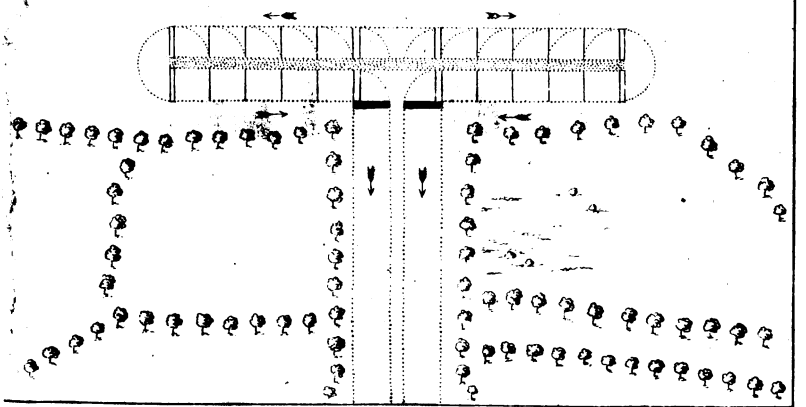

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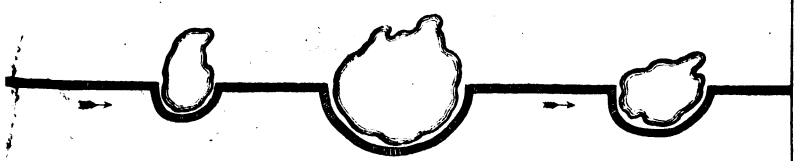

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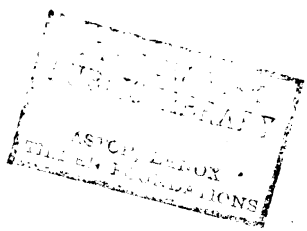

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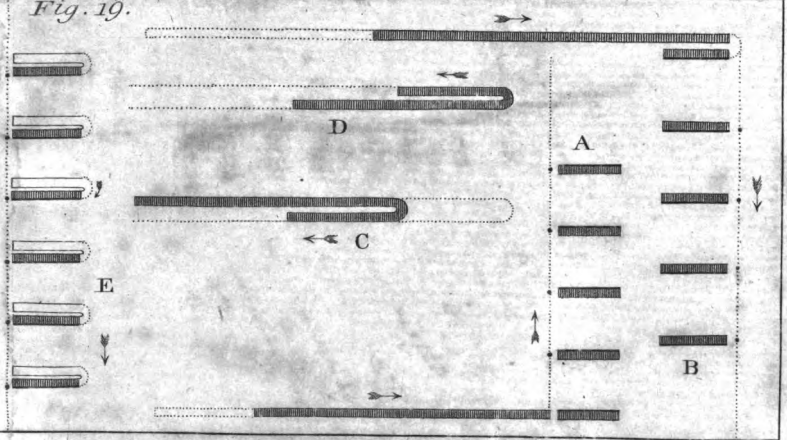

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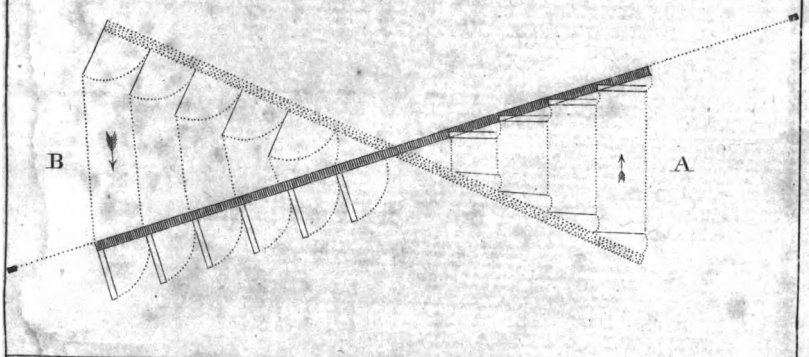

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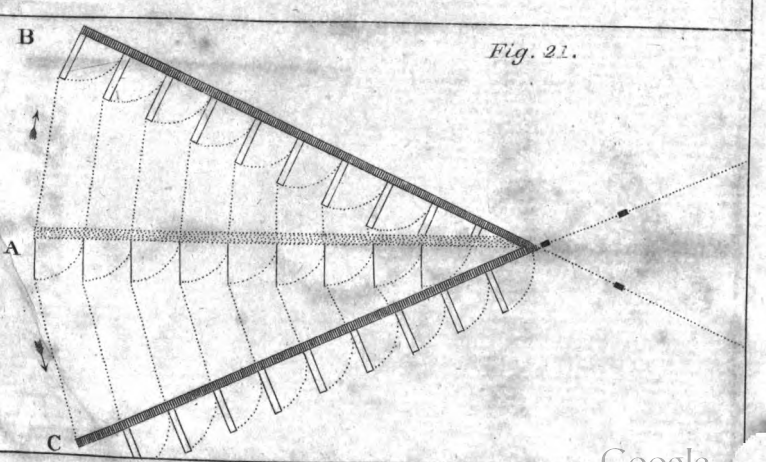

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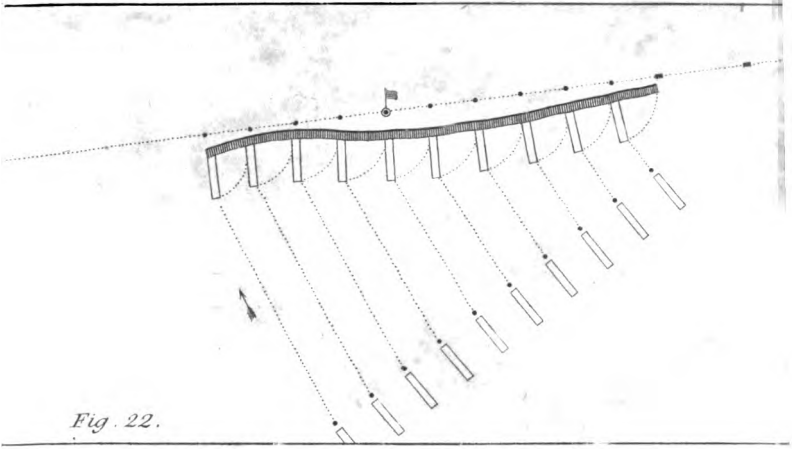

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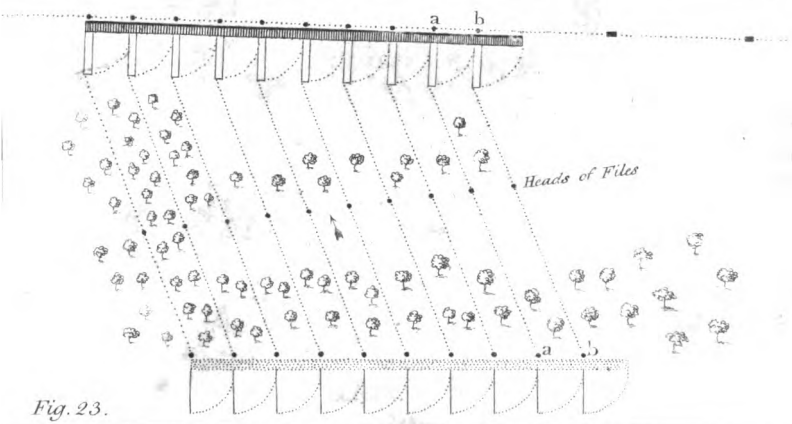

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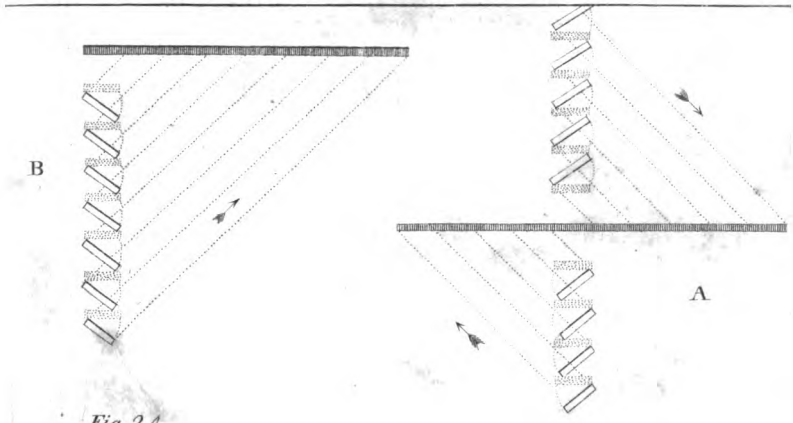

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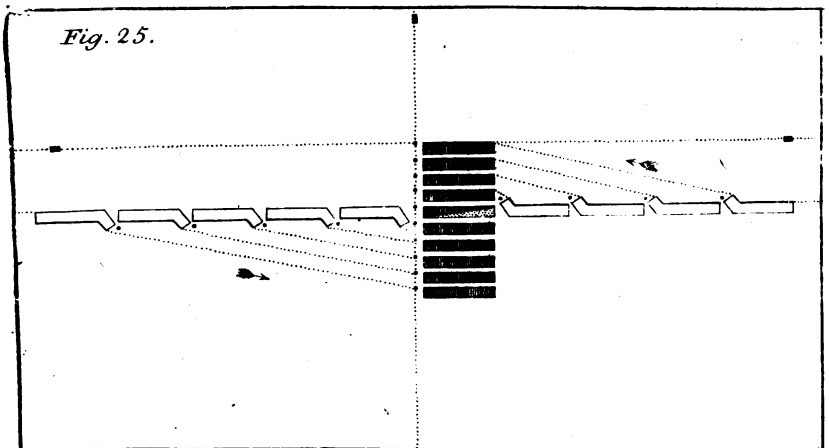

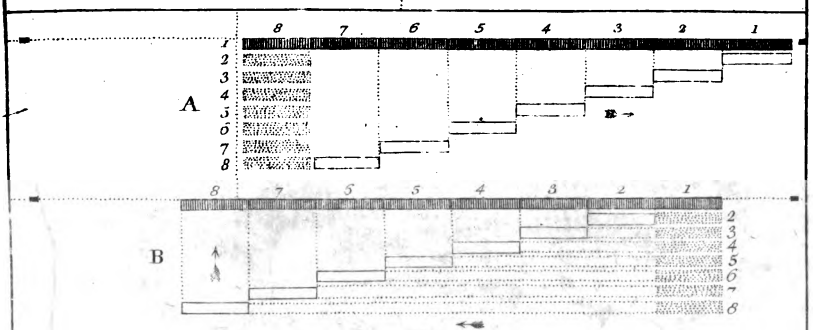

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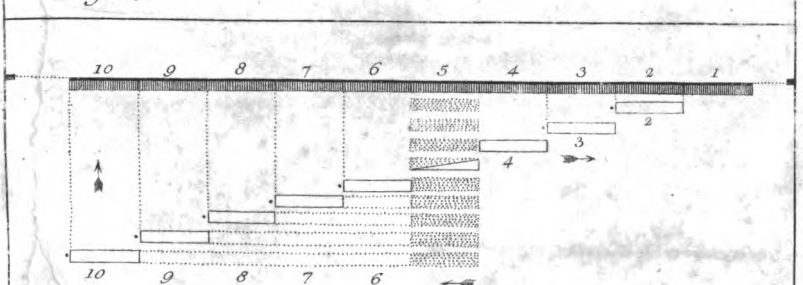

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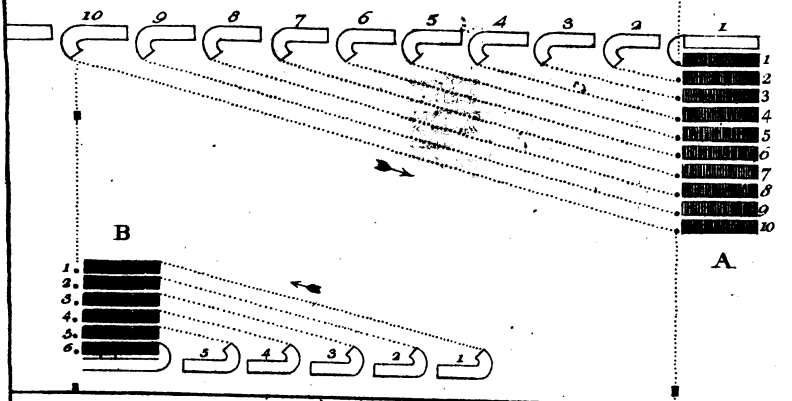
Fig. 28.



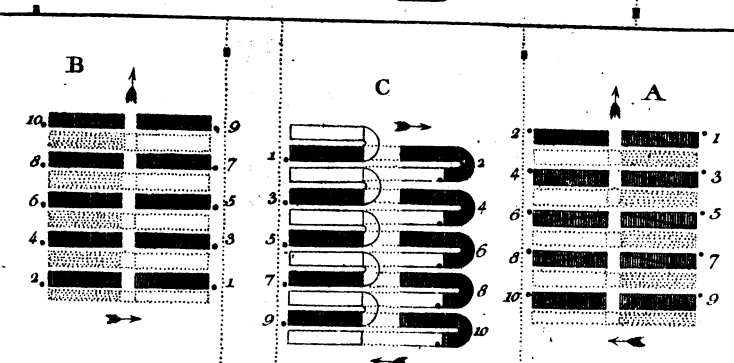


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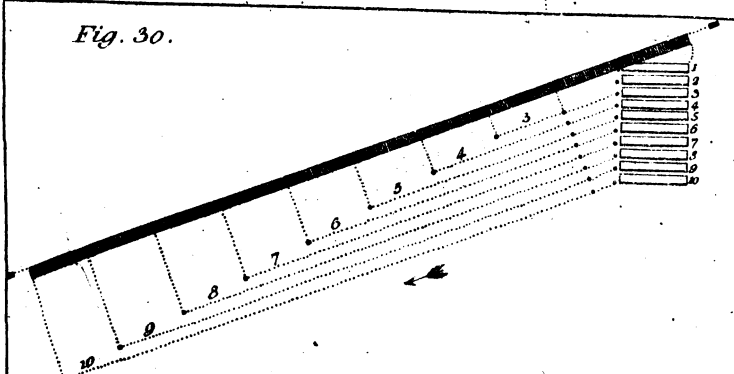
Fig. 30.



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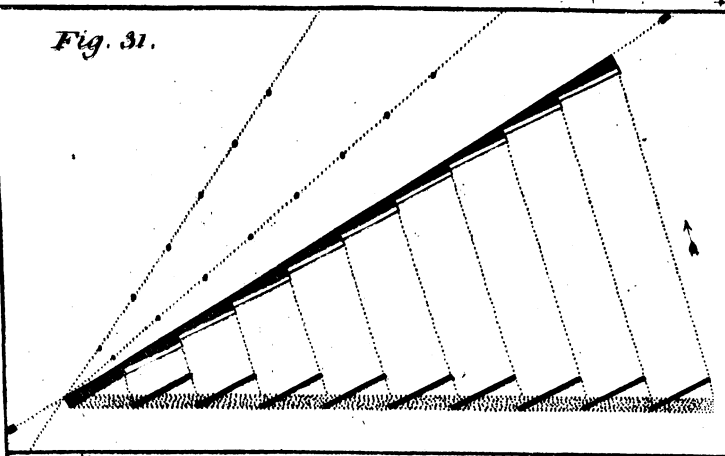

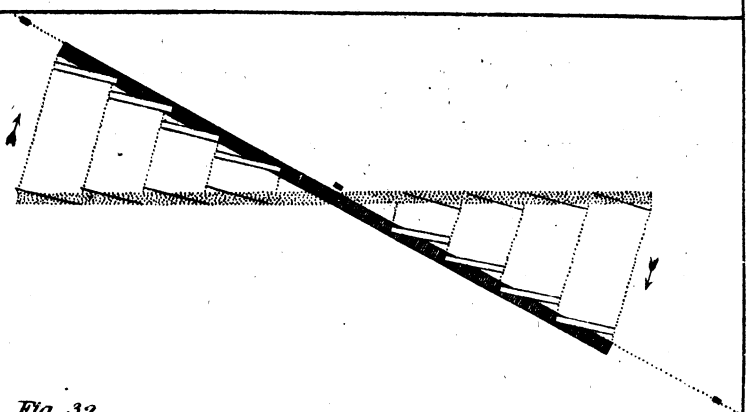

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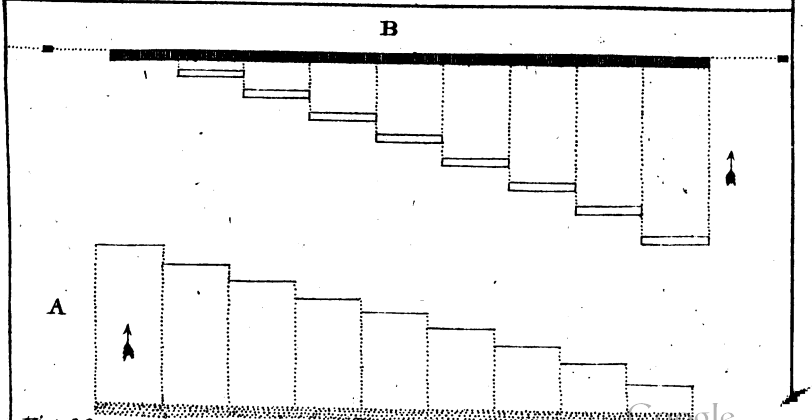

Fig. 33.

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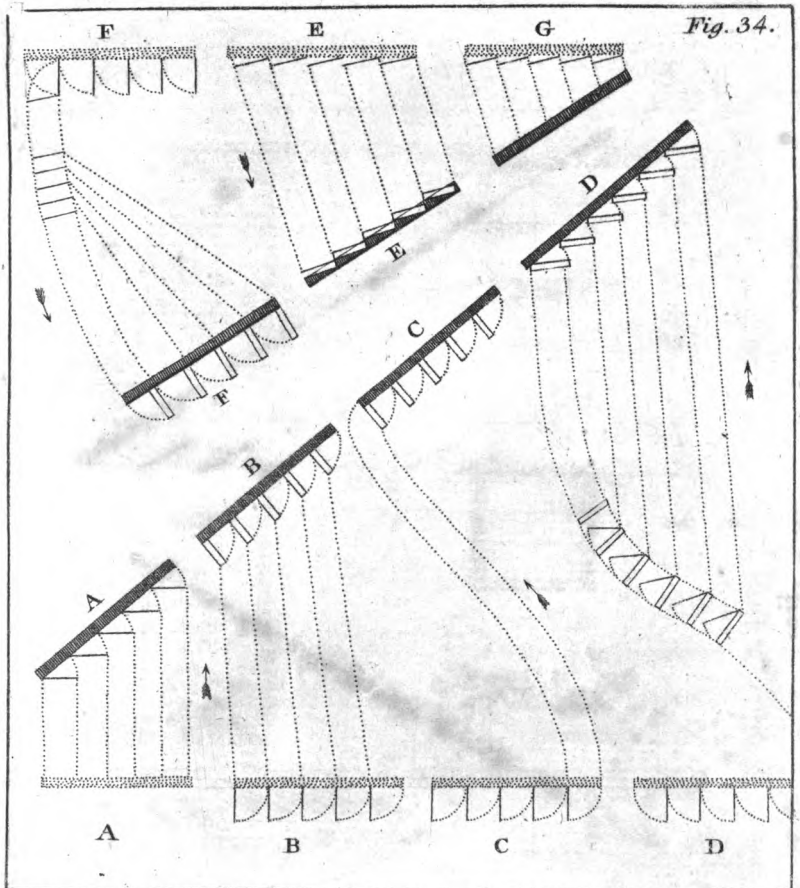

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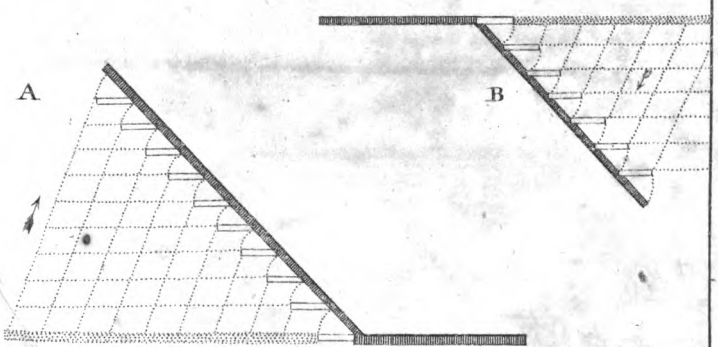
Fig. 35.



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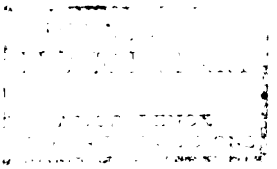

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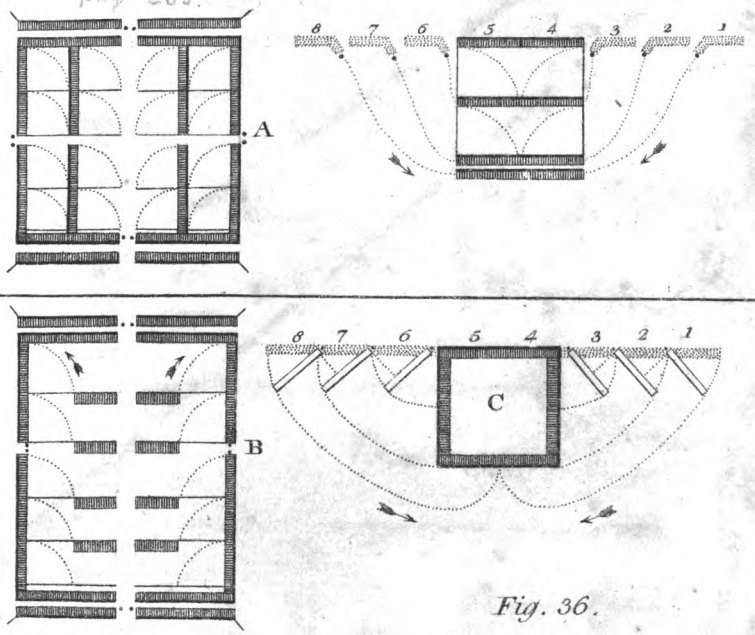

Fig. 36.

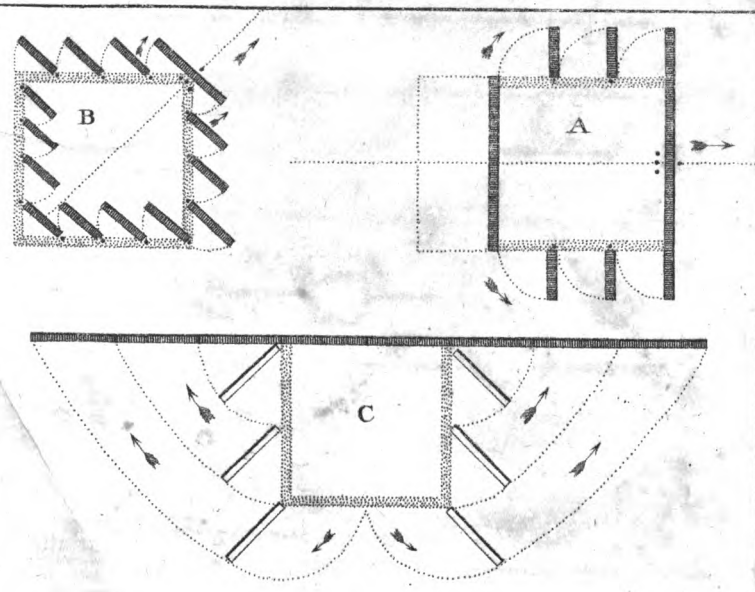

Fig. 37.

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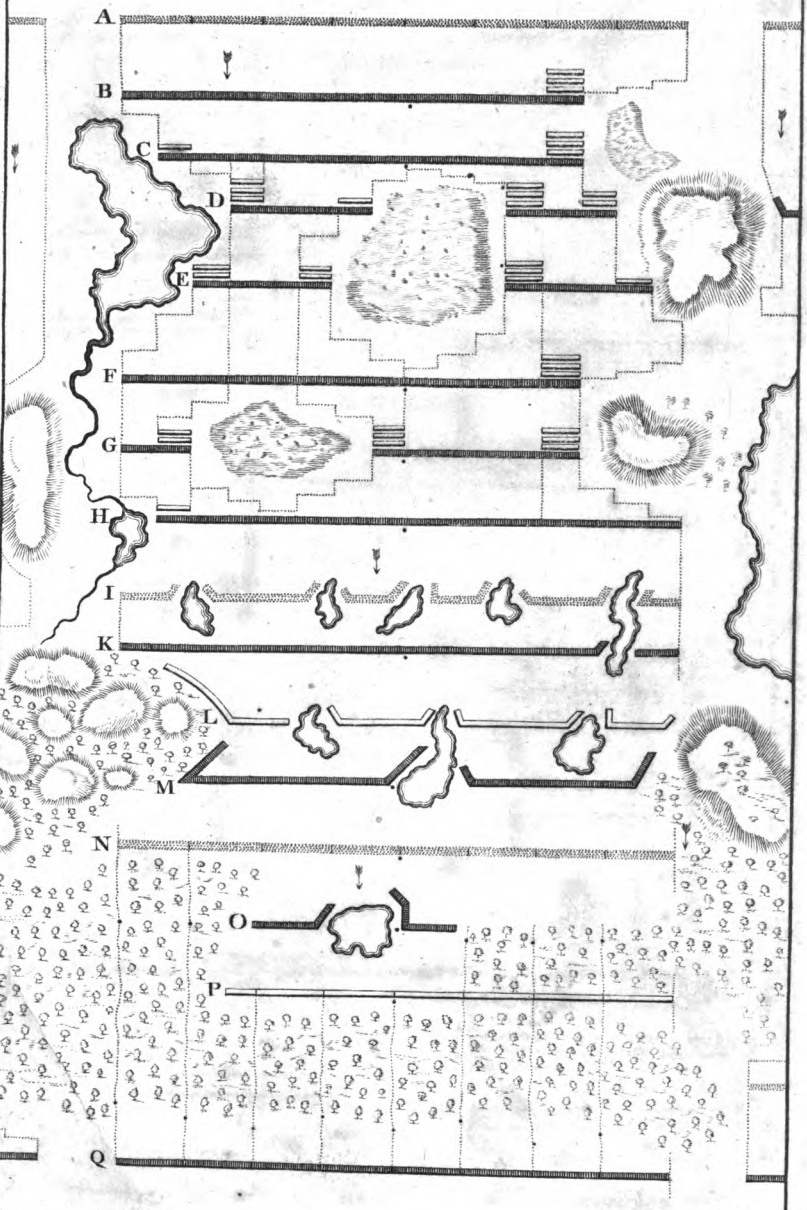
Fig. 38.



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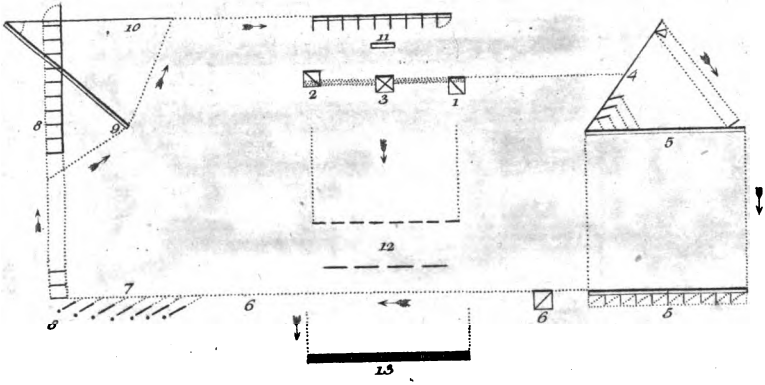

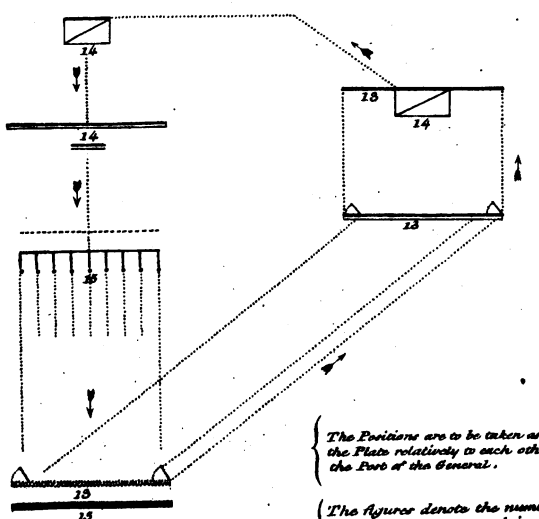

The Positions are to be taken as marked in the Plate relatively to each other and to the Post of the General.

The figures denote the numbers of the Movements as expressed in the Explanation.

A. Anderson

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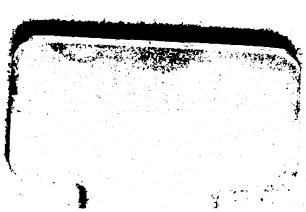
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